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HISTORY  
OF  
MONMOUTH  
COUNTY,  
NEW JERSEY.

p. 20  
ILLUSTRATED.

BY  
FRANKLIN ELLIS.

PHILADELPHIA:  
R. T. PECK & CO.

1885.

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serving young people, who are seeking to better their condition. In Dr. Lockwood many such have found a devoted friend. He has a quick discernment in detecting real merit, and will often go out of his way in advancing it. Many a young man has found his way through college and to places of honor and remuneration through Dr. Lockwood's aid and encouragement. The writer of this has known him to take a long ride, under great physical suffering, to aid a worthy teacher in trouble,—not that it was his official duty, but because of the promptings of the religious humanity of his generous heart. To-day in Monmouth County few there be who have not the most kindly feeling and respect for this scholarly gentleman, who has given the maturest part of a valuable life to the advancement of education in New Jersey, which he is proud to call his home.

No newspaper was published in Freehold prior to the War of 1812–15, and the few which were published there during the next fourteen years after the close of that war were weak and of short duration. In the time of the Revolutionary War the only paper published in New Jersey was the *New Jersey Gazette*, of which Isaac Collins was publisher. There were no post-offices then in Monmouth; the nearest one was Trenton, of which B. Smith was postmaster. The *New Jersey Gazette* had many subscribers in Monmouth, to whom papers were delivered by post-riders, who undertook such business on their own account. In 1778, John Van Kirk, who was probably the same who was sheriff of Middlesex, and who lived at Cranbury, advertised that he would deliver the *Gazette* to subscribers in Allentown for 7s. 6d. per annum; Hightstown, 10s.; Cranbury, 11s.; Englishtown, 12s. 6d.; Monmouth Court-House (Freehold), 15s,—provided two hundred and fifty subscribers could be obtained; one-quarter of the money to be paid in hand. In August of the following year (1779) Van Kirk advertised to carry the paper for about the same terms per quarter, instead of per annum,—fluctuations in currency probably the cause. His terms in 1779 were to subscribers in Allentown, 7s. 6d.; Freehold 10s.; Shrewsbury, 14s.; Middletown, 15s., and Eng-

lishtown, 10s. per quarter,—the cash to be paid by the packet master on delivering of the second week's papers.

The agents in Monmouth County in 1777–78 for the *New Jersey Gazette* were Colonel Thomas Henderson, Freehold; John Burrowes, Middletown Point; Colonel Daniel Hendrickson, Shrewsbury; Colonel Elisha Lawrence, Upper Freehold.

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The first newspaper of Freehold was a small sheet, called the *Spirit of Washington*, published, as before mentioned, in the house of John Craig (or in a small building attached to the dwelling), on the north side of Main Street, next east of the court-house. It first appeared in 1814, and continued into the following year, but how much (if any) longer is not known. It was a Federalist paper, devoted largely to abuse of President Madison and ex-President Jefferson, and violently opposed to the war then in progress against England. Two or three copies of this paper are still in existence in Freehold.

*The Monmouth Star*, a small five-column paper, edited by West Deklyn (a young lawyer of Freehold), made its first appearance October 24, 1819. It was printed in the old court-house building, on South Street, and also, for a time, in an old building standing on a part of the American House site and adjoining the small shop then occupied by Francis Deklyn, and afterwards, for more than thirty-five years, by Elias Hart. How long the *Star* continued is not known.

*The Monmouth Journal*, a five-column paper, was first issued December 26, 1826, by George M. Bunce & Co. It lived nearly two years, expiring in 1828.

*The Jersey Blue*—John C. S. Connolly and Josiah Pierson, editors—was published in Freehold in 1846, its first issue being dated January 11th in that year. It was a three-column, weekly journal, "devoted to the moral and intellectual culture of youth," which is all that has been learned with regard to it.

*The Monmouth Herald* was commenced by John C. S. Connolly and John R. T. Mason, in October, 1854, the office of publication being at the southwest corner of Main and Throck-





morton Streets. The paper was consolidated with the *Monmouth Inquirer* in April 1860.

The *Monmouth Inquirer* and the *Monmouth Democrat* are the only newspapers now published in Freehold, the first named being the older of the two. It was established in 1829 by John W. and Enos R. Bartleson,<sup>1</sup> who came

<sup>1</sup> John Wesley Bartleson was born at Whitemarsh, Montgomery County, Pa., January 26, 1806. At the age of eighteen he was apprenticed to the printing business in the office of the *Doylestown Democrat*, a mile and a half from his birth-place, the office then being under the management of General Rogers. His brother, Enos R. Bartleson, was at the same time an apprentice in the office of the *Intelligencer*, conducted by Kelly & Jackson, in the same town.

The first enterprise of Mr. Bartleson, after finishing his apprenticeship, was the publication of a newspaper at Doylestown, where, on the 27th of November, 1827, in partnership with F. B. Shaw, a lawyer, he issued the first number of *The Bucks County Political Examiner*. The paper was a small folio, with three columns to a page, issued weekly. It supported the administration of John Quincy Adams, and advocated his re-election to the Presidency. The election of Andrew Jackson in 1828 probably caused the suspension of its publication, soon after which Mr. Bartleson removed to Freehold to commence the publication of the *Inquirer*, as mentioned.

Mr. Bartleson was an active politician. He joined the Whig party early in the history of that organization, and remained in its ranks until it ceased to exist. About 1855 he became identified with the "American" or "Know-Nothing" movement, and upon the breaking up of that organization, after the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, he allied himself to the Democratic party. He was always opposed to the Republican party, as were very many of the old Whigs who adhered to the teachings of Webster and Clay and the politicians of that school.

Mr. Bartleson always wielded a strong influence among the people, and consequently was frequently named for positions of public trust. In 1841, after his first withdrawal from the *Inquirer*, he was appointed by President Harrison to the charge of the light-house at Sandy Hook, and removed with his family to that place, where he remained throughout the administration of President Tyler. In 1854 he was nominated by the Whig County Convention for sheriff against Holmes Conover, the Democratic nominee, and was defeated by only eighty-one majority in a total poll of 4956 votes. In 1855 he was nominated by the Whig Convention for county clerk, and was defeated by Jehu Patterson, receiving 2077 votes against 2709 for Patterson. In March, 1858, he was appointed by Governor Newell county clerk, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Patterson, until the ensuing election. At the township election in 1859 he was elected school superintendent, and was annually re-elected to that position until the new law creating a county superintendent went into effect, in 1867. In 1874 he was elected a justice of the peace

from Doylestown, Pa., to Freehold for that purpose.

In the spring of the year named, having learned that the *Monmouth Journal*, which had

to fill a vacancy, and the following year was elected to the full term of five years, and was re-elected in 1880. In every public position to which he was assigned he discharged the duties faithfully and to the entire satisfaction of the public.

After his first withdrawal from the *Inquirer*, Mr. Bartleson became a large operator in real estate. From 1832 to 1850 he bought and sold large tracts of land in what is now the town of Freehold and in the immediate vicinity. It is said that at one time during the above period he was the largest land-owner, and probably the wealthiest man, in this section. In 1836 he owned over two hundred acres of land east of South Street, and built the brick mansion opposite to the Freehold Institute, now occupied by J. A. Geissenhainer, Esq. This property he sold, in 1847, to Charles Parker, father of ex-Governor Parker, who conveyed it to C. D. Emson, Esq. In 1850 he purchased the "Briar Hill Farm," and engaged in farming, having his family residence on the Keyport road, just below the "Cowart property." He also engaged in the butchering business, and dealt in flour, feed and grain. This latter business ultimately caused his financial embarrassment.

He was an early and warm friend and supporter of public education. He not only labored for the establishment of the public-school system, but he aided to establish, and was a liberal patron of, the private institutions of learning in Freehold that, for more than a third of a century, contributed so largely to the intellectual culture of the people.

Mr. Bartleson was married, at Freehold, on the 5th of February, 1835, to Catharine, daughter of Samuel Throckmorton, who married Phoebe Snyder, at Frankfort, Ky., on the 26th of January, 1806, the day on which Mr. Bartleson was born. Her grandfather was Samuel Throckmorton, of South Amboy, who married Catharine Francis, of Middletown Point, in 1755. Mrs. Bartleson's aunt, Sarah Throckmorton, married Dr. Samuel Forman, who was the father of John F. T. Forman, and grandfather of Dr. D. McL. Forman, of Freehold. The fruit of this marriage was five children—Catharine L., who died in infancy; Mary Ann, widow of James D. Budington, of Freehold; Katie T., wife of H. B. Carpenter, merchant, of Philadelphia; Alethea, wife of Rev. E. D. Ledyard, of Cincinnati; and Julia, wife of A. Bell Malcolmson, lawyer, of New York City.

Intimately associated as he was with public affairs, Mr. Bartleson was unobtrusive in his demeanor and kind and gentle in his intercourse with his fellows. His public addresses, whether on political topics or in local assemblies, were argumentative and persuasive, exhibiting a sound, practical judgment and a mind well stored with facts. He always maintained a high reputation for honesty and integrity of character, and possessed, to a remarkable degree, the confidence and respect of the public. He aimed to be useful, and in this respect he was successful to the full extent



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been commenced in Freehold a little more than two years before, had been suspended for want of patronage, and that the citizens of Monmouth County were very much in want of a printer, the brothers Bartleson immediately started for Monmouth Court-House, as the town was then called. There was no public conveyance to the county-seat from that direction, and they were obliged to make the last twenty-five or thirty miles on foot. Arriving here, they learned that the printing-office of the *Journal* belonged to Major Peter Vanderhoef, then surrogate of the county, who had taken it to secure the payment of money advanced to sustain its publication, the original owners having departed to seek their fortunes elsewhere. Major Vanderhoef was not only anxious to sell in order to recover his advances, but was also, for public reasons, anxious to have the newspaper resuscitated and the printing-office again put into operation; so he was not long in coming to terms with the young printers, and making a transfer of the establishment to them. They immediately commenced business, and issued the first number of the *Monmouth Inquirer* under the firm-name of J. W. & E. R. Bartleson, editors and proprietors. The first number was issued on Tuesday, the 7th day of July, 1829. The paper was a small folio of four pages, eleven by seventeen inches each. At this time the *Inquirer* was neutral in politics. Andrew Jackson, on the previous 4th of March, has just entered upon his first term as President, and Monmouth County, at the State election in October following, had given two hundred majority for the Jackson ticket. Subsequently, upon the formation of the Whig party, the paper espoused that cause, and remained firm upon that side as long as the party survived.

The two brothers, with the assistance of a boy (John Conley),<sup>1</sup> by close application, managed to

of his opportunities. His ear was ever open to the tale of woe, and his hand always ready to relieve the distressed. The memory of few men of his generation will be longer cherished in the hearts of the poor than his. In his family he was a beloved friend and brother to all in the household, laboring unselfishly to the end for the comfort and welfare of those committed to his charge. He died at Freehold, August 18, 1881.

<sup>1</sup> John Conley was born at Stillwell's Corners, January 15, 1817, and died at Freehold, August 11, 1881. At the

do nearly all the work of the printing office within themselves, including the distribution of the paper to subscribers, which had to be done by carriers on horseback, there being very few post-offices in the county. The printing-office occupied part of a building located upon the lot now occupied in part by the *Monmouth Democrat* building and in part by the banking-house of the Freehold National Banking Company. In digging for the foundations of the *Democrat* building in 1860, the well of the old printing-office was uncovered. The building had a front of about forty feet, and was about twenty feet deep, with a hall and stairway in the centre. On the first floor, in the west end of the building, Mr. John Outcalt had a cabinet-shop; over this, on the second floor, Charles Drake manufactured boots and shoes; the printing-office occupied the ground floor on the east, and a small building on the rear was used for a press-room. The second story over the office was used by William Thompson as a tailor-shop. About the 1st of January, 1831, just about daybreak, this building was discovered to be on fire, and was entirely destroyed. The only article belonging to the printing-office that was saved was the Ramage press upon which the paper was printed. This was saved by taking it apart and throwing it out of the window. The fire, however, was prevented from reaching the press-room. It was afterwards ascertained that the fire originated in the tailor-shop from the carelessness of a journeyman. By the generosity of the business men of the town, a considerable amount of money was raised for the sufferers by the fire, but the Messrs. Bartleson refused to accept any part thereof, relying upon their youth and industry to recover their losses. The same morning of the fire a severe snow-storm set in, and before night the roads were completely blockaded. The next morning, without waiting for the roads to be broken, the senior partner of

age of twelve years he went into the *Inquirer* office to learn the business, and he continued there, almost without intermission, until the time of his fatal illness. "There were several instances when Mr. Conley was the only person who remained faithful to it (the *Inquirer*), and he never failed to bring it out some time during the week, and so kept up its regular publication."





the firm started for Philadelphia on a wood-sled to purchase materials to start the office again. It took all the first day to work his way to Trenton. From there to Philadelphia he found the roads open. Having purchased the necessary materials and packed them upon his sled, he started at sunset and reached Bristol on the evening of the third day after leaving home. The fourth day he made good progress, and reached the "Willow-Tree Tavern" (now Clarksburg) just as night closed in, but shortly after leaving there he lost his way in the pine forests, and wandered about for several hours. The weather was intensely cold, the thermometer marking below zero. He left his team in the woods and started on foot. At length he discovered a light which led him to a house, where he received directions, found his road and succeeded in reaching Freehold about half-past one o'clock in the morning. His feet and hands were badly frost-bitten, but he thawed them with cold water, and subsequently experienced no serious trouble from that cause. In the mean time another building had been procured, and before noon of the day of his return the printing-office was in full operation again. The week having elapsed, they lost the publication of the paper, but the next week they issued two editions to make up for it. These incidents are particularly mentioned to show the difficulties that attended the publication of a newspaper in Monmouth County half a century ago, and the courage and perseverance that was necessary to overcome them.

The establishment by this firm of private post routes for the distribution of their newspaper throughout the county cost them about five hundred dollars a year, and about this time they discovered that it was a losing business, and discontinued it. The firm continued until July, 1833, when E. R. Bartleson, the junior partner, withdrew from it, and removed to Wheeling, Va., where he established the *Wheeling Gazette*, daily, semi-weekly and weekly, and built up a large business. Henry and George Ayres at this time came into the *Inquirer* office as apprentices, and with John Conley formed the operative force. They remained there until 1840, when they removed

to Philadelphia and engaged in the mercantile business. Henry, for a number of years after his removal, was a literary contributor to the *Inquirer*, over the signature of "Aunt Betsey."

In the spring of 1835, Mr. Bartleson sold a half-interest in the *Inquirer* establishment to Jacob M. Callender, of Doylestown, and the firm of Bartleson & Callender continued the business until 1840, when Mr. Bartleson disposed of his remaining interest to Robert H. Johnson, of New York City. In 1842, Callender sold his interest to Orrin Pharo. Subsequently Mr. Bartleson purchased Johnson's interest and shortly after sold it to Pharo, who then became sole owner. In September, 1854, Mr. Bartleson again purchased a half-interest in the *Inquirer*, and the business was carried on under the firm-name of Pharo & Bartleson until May 8, 1856, when the latter withdrew, and was not afterwards connected with the paper. During this period, namely, October, 1855, the firm issued the first number of the *New Jersey Farmer*, a monthly of sixteen small quarto pages, the publication of which was continued successfully for several years, in the mean time having been sold to Judge Naar, of the *True American*, at Trenton.

Soon after the final withdrawal of Mr. Bartleson from the *Inquirer*, Charles S. Tunis became associated with Mr. Pharo in the proprietorship of the paper. The next change was the withdrawal of Pharo, leaving Tunis sole proprietor. Then came the firm of Tunis & Stout, then the withdrawal of Tunis in June, 1859. During Mr. Tunis' proprietorship a daily edition of the *Inquirer* had been issued for a time, but was found unprofitable, and discontinued July 17, 1858. After Stout, the next proprietor was Mr. Lyons. In April, 1860, the *Monmouth Herald* was united with the *Inquirer*,—Proprietors, W. D. & J. P. Connolly; Editor, John C. S. Connolly. The next change was the withdrawal of W. D. Connolly. Next, W. D. Connolly associated with him W. S. Cloke, under the name of Connolly & Cloke. Connolly withdrew, and A. P. Fardon became proprietor with Cloke. Fardon withdrew, and on the 24th of July, 1862, Cloke sold to Benjamin Snyder & Son. The last change of proprietorship was





made in 1864, when Snyder sold out to Colonel Edwin F. Applegate, who remained the owner and manager of the *Inquirer* establishment until his death, in the present year, and it is now carried on by his son. Of those who preceded him in the proprietorship of the paper, there are now living Charles S. Tunis, Dr. A. P. Fardon, William S. Cloke (editor of the *State Gazette*, at Trenton) and W. Scott Snyder.

The *Monmouth Democrat* was founded and established by Mr. Bernard Connolly, who died without leaving any record of the history of the paper under his administration as editor and publisher. No files of the paper were preserved by him, and no copy of the first number is known to be in existence. From a copy of the second number, in good state of preservation, and now in possession of the present owner of the establishment, we learn that the first number of the paper was published on Saturday, April 12, 1834. It was a folio of four pages, with five columns to a page, printed on a sheet twenty by twenty-eight inches in size, and set in large type. The motive leading to its establishment was to sustain President Jackson in his opposition to the recharter of the United States Bank, then the prominent political issue before the country. Mr. Connolly was a printer, then a resident of Princeton, and, from certain indications in the material of the office when it passed from his control, was employed in printing the publications of the Presbyterian Church, under the direction of its board of publication. The first thirteen numbers of the *Democrat* were printed at Princeton, as appears from a paragraph in the number for July 5, 1834, in which the publisher announces that he hopes to be able to remove his printing material to Freehold by the early part of the succeeding week. Of its further history under Mr. Connolly's management we have but a few general facts gathered from occasional numbers collected by the present owner. In 1836 it supported Van Buren for the Presidency, and has supported the nominees of the Democratic National and State Conventions from that period down to the present time. Under the leadership of John R. Thompson, in 1842-43, it advocated the framing of a new State Con-

stitution, the leading issues being the election of Governor and county officers by the people, the constitutional abolition of the property qualification for members of the Legislature, and the creation of the Court of Errors and Appeals. It also opposed the high tariff doctrines of Henry Clay and the Whig party, and advocated "a tariff for revenue, with incidental protection." After the custom of those days, the paper was essentially a political one, prominence being given to reports of congressional and legislative proceedings and debates on political questions. In the matter of news, preference was given to that from foreign countries, while local events in State and county, other than the proceedings of political meetings and conventions, were largely ignored.

About the 1st of January, 1854, the establishment was purchased of Mr. Connolly by James S. Yard, under whose management it has since continued. Mr. Yard was then publishing the *Village Record*, at Hightstown, a paper which, in partnership with Jacob Stults (now of the *Long Branch News*), he had established a few years before, and which had acquired some local reputation for its independent and vigorous treatment of social and political topics. He was largely imbued with the new ideas in journalism then coming into vogue, and upon assuming control of the *Democrat*, without changing its politics, he at once altered its whole general character and its typographical appearance. He announced, in his first address to its readers, that while the paper would be always found the ready and zealous champion of Democratic men and measures, its political department would never be allowed to engross so much space in its columns as to detract from its merits as a newspaper for the family, and that especial attention would be given to the chronicling of local news. Since that time the press of the State and of the whole country, in the particulars referred to, has been revolutionized, and the *Democrat*, among the pioneers in the movement, has maintained a good reputation among the papers of its class at home and in the State at large.

While faithfully supporting the principles and organization of the party to which it is at-



tached, the *Democrat* has not blindly followed the lead or submitted to the control of party managers, but has aimed to elevate the tone of party politics, and in doing so has not hesitated to rebuke the wrong method or to repudiate the improper nomination. At the same time, it has maintained the right and duty of a public newspaper to discuss social and moral questions upon their merits, and without regard to party considerations; and this it has done at all times and upon all occasions when it has seemed to be demanded. It was among the first to call attention to the dangerous tendencies of the Know-Nothing organization, and was unremitting in its opposition to it until it ceased to exist. It was among the first in the State in its support of the war to suppress the Southern Rebellion. In its leading editorial in its issue immediately succeeding the attack upon Fort Sumter, and, in common with the press of all parties, still hoping that an appeal to arms might be averted, it said,—

“Let us throw no obstacle in the way of the government in carrying out its policy. . . . We should remember, whenever the flag of our country is unfurled and the stars and stripes are flung to the breeze, that it is our flag, and that the country over which it waves is our country.”

In the next succeeding issue of the paper it said,—

“Allegiance to the government is as imperative as fidelity to one's family. To oppose the government when war is in progress is a crime.”

As an earnest of his faith in the cause, the publisher immediately tendered his services to Governor Olden, was accepted, went to the seat of war as Major of the Third Regiment N. J. Militia, with the first New Jersey troops that left the State, and served his tour of duty with credit. Until the close of the war the *Democrat* was foremost in encouraging the raising of troops and in sustaining measures for the suppression of the Rebellion. It also vigorously opposed all peace measures that were not based upon a complete restoration of the Union and an unqualified surrender to the constitution, and throughout the struggle counselled obedience to law and the constituted authorities. During this period an attempt, which was

seconded by some local leaders of the party, was made to disband the Democratic party, upon the plea that in the existing emergency there should be but one political party. This attempt was promptly and energetically opposed by the *Democrat*, and the effort was shortly abandoned.

In 1855 the *Democrat* attacked and was instrumental in breaking up the practice of horse-racing on the public roads, then to the demoralization of the community largely indulged in. It attacked and broke up the unlicensed liquor saloons in Freehold, several of which then existed in open violation of law and without remonstrance from the public. It has been active in encouraging the construction of our local railroads and other enterprises designed to develop the industries of the county. It early called public attention to the advantages of our sea-coast, and lent efficient aid in the effort to build up that section of the county. It from the beginning supported our public-school system, and has lent aid and encouragement to its progress and development. It has been the friend of progress, but at the same time has steadily opposed sudden and radical changes in old-established laws and customs, and changes merely to answer present emergencies or partisan ends. It has always held that a newspaper is a public trust, to be used in the interest of the general public, and not as an instrument to redress private grievances or to further personal aims and ambitions, and while it has been fearless and uncompromising in opposing that which it believed to be wrong, and sustaining that which it deemed to be right, whether in either case involving the reputation of public officials or persons in private life, it has never been called into court to justify any publication in its columns, and this immunity from prosecution it no doubt largely owes to its close adherence to the principle above stated.

The establishment was removed to the building it now occupies in the fall of 1860. Since then considerable additions have been made to the building to accommodate its increasing business. Recently its mechanical departments have been remodeled by the introduction of new machinery and the latest modern appliances





and in this respect it now ranks with the best weekly newspaper and job printing offices in the State.

MAJOR JAMES STERLING YARD, son of the late Captain Joseph A. Yard, whose sketch may be found in the military history of this volume, was born in the city of Trenton, April 20, 1826. He received his preliminary education from books at Trenton Academy, and left school at the age of fourteen to act as book-keeper for his father

the *Kings County Democrat*, and in 1850 he printed for Benjamin F. Yard, owner and editor, the first thirteen numbers of the *Ocean Signal* (now *Ocean County Courier*), at Tom's River. Subsequently he started the *Village Record* (now *Gazette*) at Hightstown. While at that place, he was postmaster for a period just before 1854, which position he resigned upon removing to Freehold. He was also postmaster of Freehold from October 1, 1855 to July 1, 1860, when he



*James Sterling Yard*

in the auction business. He afterwards entered the *True American* office to learn the art of printing, and spent several years in learning the mechanical branch of the trade. He was a skillful compositor and pressman, and at one time worked the entire weekly edition of the *True American* on a hand-press. In 1846 he started the *Weekly Visitor* in the city of Trenton, and after conducting it for three months, sold it. In 1848 he published for an association in Williamsburgh, L. I., a campaign newspaper,

resigned. In 1854 he purchased the *Monmouth Democrat* (see sketch), and has conducted it to the present time (1885). In 1866 he also established the *Long Branch News*, which he conducted for several years. He was elected a member of the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders in the spring of 1863, and re-elected for two succeeding years, when he declined to serve longer.

He was major of the Third Regiment of militia during the three months' service at the





outbreak of the late war, and afterwards was connected with all the military operations in the county for raising troops until the close of the war. He was appointed by Governor Olden to draft the militia for Monmouth County, and was commander of Camp Vredenburg and assisted in raising the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Regiments of volunteers. He was also commissioned as commander of Camp Bayard, at Trenton, which he declined. He held several commissions under Governor Parker during the war, in connection with New Jersey troops in the field.

Major Yard was appointed commissioner of railroad taxation by Governor Parker in 1873, which position he filled until 1883. In 1878 he received the appointment of deputy quartermaster-general from Governor McClellan, which position he still holds.

While Major Yard has been earnestly engaged in business matters, and filling responsible military and civil places and assuming responsible trusts in the interests of his fellow-citizens, he has not been unmindful of other obligations, to himself and to the community in which he has resided.

While at Hightstown, in 1852, he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has remained in that communion since. He efficiently served there as superintendent of the Sabbath-school, and upon his removal to Freehold was appointed to the same position here which he held for many years. In this, and also in church-work, he has zealously guarded the interests of both morality and religion. For several years Major Yard has held a license as local preacher in the church at Freehold.

On September 25, 1856, he married Adaline Clark, daughter of Daniel D. Swift, of Lancaster County, Pa. (see sketch of H. W. Murphy), by which union he has had seven children,—Emma, wife of Wm. M. Ivins, of New York City; Mary Sterling, wife of A. Harvey Tyson, of Reading, Pa.; Daniel Swift, who graduated at Princeton in the class of 1882, died November 21, 1883; Joseph Ashton; Adaline Swift; James Sterling, died April 7, 1877, and Thomas Swift, who died June 14, 1880.

Mrs. Yard, in addition to the usual cares of a

large family, which she has managed discreetly, has been an active and useful member of the church and of society, taking a leading part in the affairs of both; and not only with her hands, but by her counsel and with her pen, has she labored efficiently and contributed her share in the world's work.

The earliest physician in Freehold of whom any mention is found was one referred to in the old records as "Doct<sup>r</sup> Nichols, Esq." (meaning ex-Sheriff William Nichols), who is there mentioned in connection with the fact that in January, 1728, soon after the destruction of the first court-house by fire, his house was designated as the place for the holding of the courts of Monmouth, and his name is also found in the records of the freeholders, whose place of meeting was at his house in 1730.

Mention has already been made of Dr. Nathaniel Scudder and Dr. Thomas Henderson, both of whom were physicians of Freehold in the time of the Revolution, and both of whom were colonels in the patriot forces. Dr. Nathaniel Scudder was a son of Jacob Scudder, born May 10, 1733, graduated at Princeton in 1751, became a physician of note at Monmouth Court-House, was a delegate in the Continental Congress, 1777-79, and was killed by Refugees October 16, 1781, at Black Point, Monmouth County, where he went, as colonel of the First Battalion of Monmouth County militia, to operate with General David Forman against the enemy.

Dr. John Auderson Scudder, son of Dr. Nathaniel Scudder, was born March 22, 1759, graduated at Princeton in 1775, and, like his father, he became a well known physician of Freehold. During the Revolutionary War he served two or three years as surgeon's mate. Lanman's "Dictionary of Congress" says of him: "A native of New Jersey, a physician by profession; he served a number of years in the Assembly of his native State, and was a Representative in Congress from New Jersey for the unexpired term of James Cox, who died in 1810." Not long afterwards Dr. John A. Scudder removed from Monmouth County, N. J., to Kentucky, where he died.



Dr. Samuel Forman, who was one of the most noted physicians who ever practiced in Freehold, was a son of "Sheriff David" Forman, born on the old Forman homestead on the 3d of August, 1764. As a boy he was present in Freehold through all the period of the Revolution, and was an eye-witness of most of the stirring scenes which were enacted at the county-seat during that bloody period, the story of which he often narrated in his later years. His home was just outside the village, below the toll-gate on the Colt's Neck road, where he died in 1845. He was one of the originators of the Monmouth County Medical Society, and a more extended mention of him, as also of his son, Dr. David Forman, a prominent physician of Freehold, who died in 1826, will be found in the account (elsewhere given in this volume) of that society. He was a grandfather of Dr. D. McLean Forman, now one of the leading practitioners of Freehold.

Among other prominent physicians of Freehold during the past half-century, of whom mention is made in the history of the Medical Society, are Dr. Charles G. Patterson (born 1796, died 1835), Dr. Grandin Lloyd (born 1807, died 1852), Dr. John B. Throckmorton (born 1796, died 1856), Dr. James H. Baldwin (born 1807, died 1868), Dr. John T. Woodhull (born 1786, died 1869), Dr. John R. Conover (born 1813, died 1871) and Dr. John Vought, who died in 1882.

The present (January, 1885) physicians of the town are Dr. O. R. Freeman, Dr. D. McLean Forman, Dr. I. S. Long, Dr. J. S. Conover, Dr. W. M. Hepburn; and of the homœopathic school, Dr. William W. Burnet.

Of hotels or taverns in the village that is now Freehold, the earliest suggestion is found in the records of January, 1728, when the court, having met at the ruins of the court-house, which had been destroyed by fire a month before, adjourned to the house of William Nichols, where the business of the term was transacted.

In 1729, and afterwards, Nichols' house was the place designated for the meetings of the Board of Freeholders. These facts do not prove that Nichols kept a public-house, but they lead

to that presumption, as it is almost certain that there must have been a tavern in the court-house village, and it appears probable that the tavern would be the place selected (rather than a private house) for the purposes mentioned. The William Nichols referred to had been high sheriff of Monmouth County, and it appears that he was also a physician, as the records of 1730 mention him as "Doct<sup>r</sup> Nichols, Esq."

From that time no reference has been found to taverns or tavern-keepers at Monmouth Court-House, until 1778, when James Wall's name is found in that connection. It is not known that then, or at any time during the Revolution, there was more than one tavern in the village. A second one, however, must have been opened soon after the close of the war, as in 1788 the taverns of John Anderson and Samuel P. Forman are mentioned, and in 1789, Lewis McKnight was an inn-keeper at Monmouth village. There is nothing in the mention of these to indicate the locations of their houses, but there can be little doubt that they kept the two ancient tavern-stands of Freehold,—the Washington and the Union.

The Washington Tavern, (or Hotel, as named in later years,) is said by tradition to be the pioneer inn of the village. Its earliest landlord, who can be mentioned as such with certainty, was Major James Craig, who kept it from 1797 to 1810, and, perhaps, before and after that period. He was succeeded by William Craig, who was, in turn, succeeded by John Casler, who was its landlord in 1818 and in 1825. It was kept by Aaron Brewer in 1827 to 1830. In 1832-33 it was kept by General James Ten Eyck, who afterwards removed to Colt's Neck, and was succeeded in the Washington by C. C. Higgins, who was a silversmith by trade, but who, having taken up the business of tavern-keeping, became successively the landlord of all hotels in Freehold except the American, and was also interested in several stage-lines. He kept the Washington from 1834 to 1837, inclusive. His successors down to the year 1850 were Elisha Thompson, John I. Thompson, William D. Oliphant and Abner H. Reed. In 1851 the house was rented by David Patterson, who, about a year after-





wards, purchased the property, and kept the house until 1873. During this period, in 1869, he demolished the old house, which had been added to and repaired at various times from the year 1800, and erected the present Washington Hotel, of which he is still the owner. Since his retirement from the management of the house it has been kept by George W. Patterson, — McNulty, Richard Fleming, John J. Wheeler and Samuel Thompson, who occupied it until April 1, 1885.

The Union, now Taylor's Hotel, was known eighty years ago as "Coward's Tavern," being then kept by Samuel Coward, who was the first of the landlords now definitely known to have kept it as an inn, though the house had then been in existence many years.<sup>1</sup> After him (about 1809) came William Egbert, who kept it a number of years, and was succeeded about 1823 by Jacob Dennis. Charles Burk was its landlord in 1825, and continued until after 1830. After Burk, the house was kept by C. C. Higgins, who afterwards took the Washington, and still later the United States. He was succeeded in the Union, in the early part of 1834, by Barzillai Hendrickson, who kept the house about six years, after which Higgins again became the proprietor. It was kept by Nathaniel S. Rue from 1844 to 1853, inclusive. In March, 1854, it was taken by Welch &

Carson, who repaired and refitted the house. In 1856-57 it was kept by Carson & Conover. In February, 1858, the property was purchased by Thomas P. Barkalow, who then kept the house eight years, and was succeeded by Johnson & Patterson, who kept it from 1866 to 1869, and whose successors have been Johnson & Bailey, Danser & Sutphin, Richard Fleming, David C. Danser, E. C. Richardson and John Taylor, the present proprietor, who purchased the property in the spring of 1882, and by whom the house has been enlarged, thoroughly repaired and refitted in every detail.

The United States Hotel, previously the Monmouth Hotel, was opened under the latter name by Benjamin Laird, in the year 1830, the house being the same which had been the residence of John Craig, adjoining the courthouse lot on the main street. Mr. Laird kept the house until 1837 or 1838, after which it was kept a short time by Mrs. Ware. In the spring of 1840 it was taken by C. C. Higgins, who rebuilt the house (raised it to three stories), named it the United States, and kept it till the spring of 1845, when it was again taken by Benjamin Laird, who kept it several years. After Mr. Laird the house was kept by John L. Doty, but the exact date of the latter's proprietorship has not been ascertained. It was kept in 1854-55 by John C. Cox, whose successor was D. C. Conover. Stokes & Rogers took it in 1857. After them came as landlords, George H. Snowhill, J. S. Crater and Danser & Hamill. In 1864 the property was purchased by David Patterson, Snowhill being then the landlord. Afterwards (while Danser & Hamill were in possession) it was sold to Rowland A. Ellis, who remodeled the building into stores and offices, as it still remains.

The American Hotel is the youngest of the hotel-stands on the main street of Freehold. Gordon's "Gazetteer" for the year 1834 says that at that time there were three hotels in the town. These three were, of course, the old Washington and Union taverns, and the Monmouth Hotel, which Benjamin Laird had opened four years before. There was then no tavern on the site now occupied by the American Hotel, but there was one built and opened there very soon

<sup>1</sup> On the 11th of June, 1779, the land now embraced in the Union Hotel property was sold under the confiscation laws by Samuel Forman, Joseph Lawrence and Kenneth Hankinson, commissioners. The property was then described as adjoining David Rhea's lot, and consisted of "a house, out-houses and lot of ground," previously owned by John Longstreet, Jr., who was a Tory Refugee. The purchaser from the commissioners was Elisha Walton. On the 21st of December, 1808, Walton conveyed it to Lewis Gordon, who, on the 23d of May, 1809, conveyed it to William Egbert, who mortgaged it to the Rev. John Woodhull, and was sold out by the sheriff, July 6, 1823. It then became the property of the estate of Tunis Vanderveer, and so remained until April 15, 1825, when it was sold to Charles and James Burk. In 1827, James Burk sold his interest to Charles, and in October, 1832, Charles Burk was sold out at sheriff's sale. The purchaser was James Burk, who sold the property to Barzillai Hendrickson, February 7, 1834. Hendrickson sold it, January 2, 1840, to C. C. Higgins, who sold it to N. S. Rue, May 7, 1844. Rue sold it, in 1854, to Welch & Carson, and in 1858 the property was sold by the sheriff to Thomas P. Barkalow. Subsequent changes of proprietorship are noticed above.





afterwards, and it was kept in 1837 by John I. Thompson, who was then familiarly known as "Boss" Thompson, and who kept the house for three or four years. Reference to newspaper files of that time show that while Thompson was landlord (and for a time afterwards) the house was called Monmouth Hall. When he left the house he removed to Shrewsbury, but subsequently returned to Freehold, took the Washington Hotel, and died there. After he left Monmouth Hall it was kept by Isaac Amerman. In April, 1843, it was bought by David C. Conover, who afterwards became landlord of the United States.

• The name American Hotel was given by Joseph G. Stillwell, who, with his partner, McNulty, purchased the property, and after continuing business for a few years in the old house (which was a small, low-studded structure), tore it away and erected a new and commodious house, which they opened under the present name. One of the landlords of the house was J. L. Huntsinger, but neither the precise date nor the duration of his occupancy has been ascertained. Another landlord (for a short time) was John C. Cox, who afterwards kept the United States. In 1854 the American Hotel was kept by Abner H. Reed, who remained in it about fifteen years and was succeeded by Moses M. Laird, who kept the house until January, 1873, when he was succeeded by the present proprietor, Mr. William Davis.

The Railroad Hotel, on Throckmorton Street, near the Pennsylvania Railroad Station, was opened in 1861 by Charles T. Fleming. In 1864 he sold it to William Thompson, who was succeeded in the proprietorship by Thomas Mulholland, the present owner.

The post-office at the village which is now Freehold was established January 1, 1795, and named "Monmouth," which name was officially changed to "Freehold" on the 1st of January, 1801. Following is a list of the postmasters, with dates of their appointment, viz.:

Samuel McKinstry . . .	January 1, 1795.
Samuel McConkey . . .	April 1, 1795.
John Laird . . . . .	April 1, 1798.
David Craig . . . . .	July 12, 1798.

Richard Throckmorton .	October 1, 1805.
William J. Bowne . . .	July 1, 1817.
Peter C. Vanderhoof . .	June 26, 1825.
Cyrus Bruen . . . . .	December 15, 1827.
William Lloyd, Jr. . . .	March 3, 1835.
Orrin Pharo . . . . .	November 15, 1849.
William V. Ward . . . .	June 7, 1853.
James S. Yard . . . . .	September 25, 1855.
Jacob C. Lawrence . . .	July 23, 1860.
J. H. Rosell . . . . .	March 26, 1861.
Charles T. Fleming . . .	July 23, 1870.
Edwin F. Applegate . . .	June 18, 1874.
Martin L. Farrington . .	March 3, 1883.

Freehold became an incorporated town in 1869, under "An Act for the Improvement of the Town of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth," approved March 25th in that year. By this act the legal voters of the town were authorized and empowered to elect annually one commissioner, four assistant commissioners, a town clerk and two inspectors of election, the commissioner and assistants, when duly sworn into office, to constitute "The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Freehold," having corporate powers and privileges and authority "to pass and enact such by-laws and ordinances, not repugnant to the constitution or laws of the State, as they may consider proper, for altering, regulating and fixing the grade of the roads, streets and side-walks and lighting the same within the limits of the town; for keeping the same in repair and for preventing or removing obstructions therein; for preventing and suppressing riots and disturbances of the peace; for suppressing vice and immorality; and all such other laws and ordinances as they may think adapted to promote the welfare, good order, health and prosperity of the said town and the inhabitants thereof; to revoke, alter and amend the same in their discretion, and to enforce obedience to the same by fines and imprisonments," . . . . to an extent not exceeding twenty dollars' fine and a term of thirty days' imprisonment; the board to appoint a town treasurer, two police justices, a town marshal and one or more assistants, and also a street superintendent, having duties "the same as the overseer of the roads under the laws of the State." The members of the Board of Commissioners to receive no compensation for their services. The cor-



poration limits and boundaries were established by the act, as follows:

"Beginning at the southwesterly edge of the new Street, recently opened by Henry Brinkerhoff, where it intersects with Main Street, and running thence along the southwesterly edge of said new Street to the middle of South Street, and including the land three hundred feet deep on the southwesterly side of said new Street from Main to South Street; thence northerly along the middle of South Street to the northerly edge of the road leading from South Street, by Benjamin Jefferson's house, to Jerseyville; thence along the northerly edge of said Jerseyville road to the middle of Parker Avenue, opened between lands of Joel Parker and the late Thomas C. Throckmorton; thence along the middle of Parker Avenue to the middle of Institute Street; thence in a northerly direction in a straight line to a point where the most easterly line of Hudson Street intersects with Elm Street, as marked on the map of Freehold, made by Ezra A. Osborn and Thomas A. Hurley, in 1855; thence along the most easterly edge of Hudson Street in the northeasterly direction to Bennett Street, as marked on the aforesaid map; thence in a straight line, the same course as the most easterly line of Hudson Street to the Freehold and Colt's Neck turnpike, and including the lands two hundred feet deep, on the most easterly side of said line from Elm Street to said turnpike; thence in a northerly direction in a straight line to the southeasterly corner of the land of William H. Conover, Jr., on the Freehold and Keyport turnpike; thence northerly along said Conover's easterly line, six hundred feet; thence in a straight line to the middle of Henry Street, where it is intersected by the middle of Brown Street; thence in a westerly direction along the middle of Henry Street to the middle of Court Street; thence northwesterly along the middle of Court Street to where the southeasterly edge of Haley Street intersects with Court Street; thence along the southeasterly edge of Haley Street in a westerly direction to Throckmorton Avenue; thence in a straight line in a southwesterly direction to the most easterly corner of Elisha Schanck's line; thence along Elisha Schanck's line in a southwesterly direction to Manalapan Avenue, as marked on the aforesaid map of Freehold; thence in a straight line in a southerly direction to a point on the southerly edge of Main Street, three hundred feet from the place of beginning; thence along the southerly edge of Main Street to the place of beginning."

The first charter election of the town of Freehold was held on the first Monday in May, 1869, in pursuance of the requirement of the act of incorporation, David C. Perrine, Holmes W. Murphy and John S. Denise (the persons named in the act) being judges of the election, which

resulted in the choice of the following-named officers, viz.: Commissioner, Holmes W. Murphy; Assistant Commissioners, John S. Denise, John G. Cooper, John Dorrance, Joseph T. Laird; Town Clerk, John L. Howell; Inspectors of election, George W. Vanderveer and Alfred Walters. Following is given a list of persons who have been elected to the offices of commissioner, assistant commissioners and town clerk in each year, from that time to the present, viz.:

#### 1870 AND 1871.

Commissioner, Holmes W. Murphy.

Assistant Commissioners, John S. Denise, John G. Cooper, Joseph T. Laird, William Cooper.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1872 TO 1874 (INCLUSIVE).

Commissioner, Joseph T. Laird.

Assistant Commissioners, John S. Denise, John G. Cooper, Alfred Walters, William Cooper.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1875.

Commissioner, John G. Cooper.

Assistant Commissioners, John S. Denise, Alfred Walters, William Cooper, John H. Ellis.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1876.

Commissioner, Alfred Walters.

Assistant Commissioners, John H. Ellis, William Cooper, William S. Combs, James J. Conover.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1877.

Commissioner, James J. Conover.

Assistant Commissioners, Alfred Walters, William W. Pitman, Charles Truex, William H. Butcher.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1878.

Commissioner, James J. Conover.

Assistant Commissioners, William W. Pitman, Charles Truex, William H. Butcher, Joseph H. Rosell.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1879 AND 1880.

Commissioner, James J. Conover.

Assistant Commissioners, Charles Truex, William H. Butcher, Joseph H. Rosell, John Dorrance.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

#### 1881 TO 1884 (INCLUSIVE).

Commissioner, John Dorrance.

Assistant Commissioners, William H. Butcher, Charles Truex, Joseph H. Rosell, Frank P. McDermott.

Town Clerk, John L. Howell.

Town Marshal, John Neatie (held that office continuously from 1869 until his death).





JOHN NEAFIE was born at Turkey, in Howell township, Monmouth County, May 16, 1837. His father was Abraham G. Neafie (afterwards sheriff of Monmouth County), who was born April 25, 1804, married Sarah A. Smith, December 29, 1825, and died June 7, 1846. His wife was a daughter of Peter and Sarah (Hall) Smith, of Howell township, who lived to the respective ages of eighty-eight and eighty-four years. Their daughter, Sarah A., was born August 31, 1809, and died November 21, 1880. The children of Abraham G. and Sarah

in 1841 removed to Lower Squankum, where John Neafie passed the years of his boyhood. He attended the common schools of the neighborhood until, having reached the age of fifteen years, he went to Freehold to learn the trade of sash and blind-making with a Mr. Van Doren; afterwards he was employed in superintending the same business for Austin H. Patterson, at Turkey, Howell township, where he remained one year, and then returned to Freehold, where, in April, 1857, he established a sash and blind-factory. After having been in



*John Neafie*

A. (Smith) Neafie were nine in number, viz.: A son who died in infancy, unnamed; Peter Smith Neafie; Margaret (married Marshall Allen); Caroline (married John B. Cowdriek); Garret; John; Jackson H.; Mary Conover and Ruhama Campfield. Of these, only two—Margaret (Mrs. Allen) and Jackson H. Neafie,—are now living.

In 1838, Abraham G. Neafie, father of John, was elected sheriff of Monmouth County. Upon his assuming the duties of that office he removed with his family to Freehold, where they remained until the close of his term, and

that business about two years his health became so much impaired by a pulmonary disease that he was entirely incapacitated for work, and in that condition he remained for more than five years, during which period his disease became at times so alarming that his life was despaired of. At length, however, his health began to improve, and finally became so far re-established that, in connection with Henry F. Jennings, and afterwards with D. D. Cawley, he engaged in the ready-made boot and shoe business in Freehold; but after a time it became evident that out-door employment was indispensable to





the preservation of his health; thereupon he relinquished his business, and in 1868 was elected constable of the township. In the following year, upon the erection and organization of the incorporated district of Freehold, he was appointed marshal of the district.

In 1879 a law was passed authorizing the appointment of two sergeants-at-arms for the county courts, and on the 5th of April in that year. Mr. Neafie was commissioned to that office, his being the first appointment as sergeant-at-arms in Monmouth County. Subsequently he received the appointment of crier of the courts, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of George Huntsinger. All the offices to which Mr. Neafie was appointed, as above-mentioned, were held by him continuously until the time of his death.

In November, 1879, he purchased the book and stationery store on Main Street, established by John G. Cooper, and, in partnership with Mr. Grandin Johnson, under the firm-name of Neafie & Johnson, continued the business very successfully until his death, Mr. Johnson attending chiefly to the in-door work of the store.

Mr. Neafie was married, December 28, 1857, to Kate Taylor, daughter of Johnson Taylor, of Howell township, and his wife, Sarah (Huff) Taylor. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Neafie have been Harry Neafie, born August 4, 1859, and now a physician of Freehold; J. Conover Neafie, born December 20, 1864, and died in infancy; Emma, born March 31, 1869, died in infancy; and Maggie A., born May 7, 1872, and now living with her mother in Freehold. Mr. Neafie died at his home in Freehold, after a short illness, of pneumonia, March 4, 1885.

During his residence of more than a quarter of a century in Freehold, John Neafie was one of its most active and valued citizens. In his business relations he sustained an unblemished reputation. In his family he was kind, affectionate and indulgent. As a public officer he was faithful, fearless and impartial, yet courteous, kind and forbearing in the discharge of his duties. In his social relations he was highly esteemed; and as a man and citizen, he enjoyed

to the fullest extent the confidence and respect of the community in which he lived.

The first bank of Freehold was the ill-fated Monmouth Bank, chartered in 1824. In the following year it was (nominally) in business, with William J. Bowne as manager and cashier. For a time in that year, whatever funds, securities or other property it possessed, liable to be stolen, was locked, for safe-keeping, in one of the cells of the jail. Afterwards a safe or strong box was provided, and the office of the bank was kept in Mr. Bowne's building, on Main Street,—the same one which, in the great fire of October, 1873, was torn down by the Good Will Hook-and-Ladder Company to check the spread of the fire westward. It stood next east of the First National Bank building, and between that and the Ryall mansion.

Of the history of the old Monmouth Bank during the twelve years next following the time of its incorporation very little is now known. In Gordon's "Gazetteer" is found the following: "*Monmouth Bank at Freehold.*—Chartered in 1825. Capital, \$200,000. Amount paid in, \$40,000. Amount of bonus, \$4000. Amount paid to treasurer, \$4000." The bank was always regarded with distrust by the community, and finally ceased to exist. The end of it, under its first organization, is marked by an advertisement printed in the *Monmouth Democrat* of February, 1836, as follows:

"MONMOUTH BANK

"Will be sold at Public Auction, at the house of Barzillai Hendrickson, in Freehold, on Saturday, the 12th of March next, at eleven o'clock, A.M. The Vault of the Monmouth Bank, Consisting of Iron and Stone, two Iron Doors, one large fire-proof Iron Chest, three Copper Bank Note Plates, Bank Note Paper, Blank Account Books, one Large Bank Lock and other articles,

"W. J. BOWNE, Assignee.

"Freehold, 23d February, 1836."

The sale was twice adjourned, viz., to Saturday, February 18th, and again to Saturday, the 26th, at which latter time the articles were doubtless disposed of, though no account of the sale is found.

The bank was afterwards resuscitated under the same name, and with Dr. John T. Woodhull as president. It is said (and is undoubtedly



true) that Dr. Woodhull was deceived into connecting himself with the project by the misrepresentation of some traveling cattle-dealers, who, with their friends in New York, wished to (and did) use the bank to serve their personal ends, in speculation—or worse. The office or place of business of the resuscitated bank under Dr. Woodhull's presidency was in the house now occupied by the Misses Christopher, on Main Street. Some of the bills of this bank are still in existence. One of them, kept by Hon. Charles A. Bennett as a curiosity, reads: "THE MONMOUTH BANK will pay to J. S. English, or bearer, one dollar. John T. Woodhull, president; James H. Earl, cashier." The number of the bill is 147; date, January 22, 1842. This was the last year of the existence of the Monmouth Bank, its charter being repealed in 1843.

In 1836 application was made to the Legislature for a charter of the Marl Bottom Bank, to be located at Freehold; but it was not obtained.

The Farmers' Bank of Freehold (notwithstanding its name) never had any banking-office or regular place of business in Freehold, but was owned by and carried on in the interest of a few men living and doing business in New York. No facts have been ascertained showing the amount of its nominal capital, or how long it had been in existence prior to January 2, 1853, which is the date of the following self-explaining advertisement, found in the *Monmouth Democrat* of that time, viz.:

"BANK NOTICE.

"Farmers' Bank of Freehold, N. J.

"All the outstanding notes of this bank must be presented to the State Treasurer for payment within two years from the date hereof, or the funds deposited for the redemption of such notes will be given up to this institution at the expiration of said time.

"DANIEL CHRISTOPHER, Prest."

THE FREEHOLD BANKING COMPANY was originally organized under a special charter granted by act of the Legislature of 1855. The incorporators named in the act were James S. Lawrence, Peter Vredenburg, Nathaniel S. Rue, Tunis V. Conover, Bennington F. Ran-

dolph, John Vought, Joseph Combs, Jacob B. Rue, James Buckalew.

The capital stock authorized was \$100,000, with the privilege of increasing the same to \$200,000. The company was organized at a meeting of the stockholders held at the Union Hotel on the 28th of September, 1855, of which meeting James Buckalew was chairman and Dr. John Vought secretary. The first board of directors was composed as follows: James S. Lawrence, William D. Davis, Joseph Combs, ~~William H. Conover~~, William Statesir, Bennington F. Randolph, A. R. Throckmorton.

The bank commenced business February 1, 1856, with a capital paid in of \$50,000, and with James S. Lawrence as president and Jacob B. Rue as cashier. The bank building was built in the fall of 1855 and following winter. In 1865 it was enlarged and remodeled, forming the substantial and commodious building now occupied by the bank.

The first president, Mr. Lawrence, held the office until 1861, when he resigned and was succeeded by William Statesir, who continued as president until his resignation, in 1882. His successor was Aaron R. Throckmorton, who held until his death, March 3, 1883, upon which William Statesir was again elected, and is the present president. The cashiers have been as follows: Jacob B. Rue, 1856 to 1864, resigned; W. H. Howell, 1864-70, resigned; Stewart Brown, 1870-71; James L. Terhune, 1871-74, resigned; T. A. Ward, 1882 to present time.

The capital of the bank, originally \$100,000, was afterwards increased to \$150,000, and again to \$200,000. About 1874 it was reduced to \$150,000, as it is at present. It has a surplus of \$100,000.

In March, 1865, the bank was organized, under the National Banking Law, as the Freehold National Banking Company, under which name and organization it continued for nearly twenty years, until December 13, 1884, when it was reorganized under the State laws, resuming its original name, the Freehold Banking Company.

JAMES S. LAWRENCE.—James Lawrence, the grandfather of James S. Lawrence, who was of English descent, married Elizabeth





Ritchie, of Aberdeen, Scotland, and was the father of children,—Ann, born in 1740; Mary, in 1750; Rebekah, in 1752; James, in 1754; George, in 1756; John R., in 1759; and Mehitable, in 1760. John R., whose birth occurred on the 24th of September, 1759, and his death on the 14th of February, 1882, married Margaret, daughter of James and

town, in Burlington County, N. J., and subsequently under Samuel Gummere, of Burlington, adding much to this early training by careful and judicious reading and habits of observation and thought. The early death of his father placed in his hands, when a youth, the management of the farm, and caused him to be intrusted with unusual responsibilities, which were met



*J. S. LAWRENCE*

Hannah Shinn. Their children were James S.; Ritchie, born September 5, 1801; and Margaret R. (Mrs. William Tilton), whose birth occurred April 3, 1803. James S. Lawrence was born August 24, 1797, at Cream Ridge, Upper Freehold township, and spent the greater portion of his life at the ancestral home which was the scene of his birth. He received a thorough preparatory education, first at Arney-

with a determination and energy that insured success. At a later period, though placing the cultivation of the land in other hands, he still retained his residence in Upper Freehold township. Judge Lawrence was married, on the 10th of February, 1825, to Mary S., daughter of Hendrick Conover, whose death occurred on the 7th of August, 1834. He was again married, on the 3d of June, 1841, to Phoebe Ann, eldest



daughter of Nathaniel S. Rue, Sr., of New York City, formerly of Manalapan township, Monmouth County. Mrs. Lawrence's paternal grandfather was William Rue, who married Nellie Conover, and had, among his seven children, a son, Nathaniel S. Rue, who was united in marriage to Elizabeth Toan. The surviving children of the latter marriage are Mrs. Lawrence; Nathaniel S., of Cream Ridge, Upper Freehold township, whose children are Elizabeth L. and James L.; Robert C., who has children, Lucretia M. and Nathaniel S. (deceased); and Sarah M., wife of George W. Shinn, of Freehold, whose children are James L. and Mary A. Judge Lawrence, in 1856, made Freehold his residence, having that year been elected president of the Freehold Banking Company, which position he held until his death, on the 26th of February, 1860, in his sixty-third year. He was also director of the Mercer County Fire Insurance Company, and frequently the incumbent of offices of trust, such as guardian and executor. He was long identified with the Old-Line Whig party in politics, and on the organization of the Republican party joined its ranks. He was for twenty-four years freeholder of Upper Freehold township, for many years justice of the peace and served a term in the State Legislature. He was also appointed associate judge of the Monmouth County Court. Judge Lawrence was descended on the maternal side from Quaker stock, but in later life supported the Presbyterian Church, to which he was ever a willing contributor.

WILLIAM STATESIR is of Holland descent, his grandfather, Isaac Statesir, having been a farmer in Shrewsbury township, Monmouth County, N.J. He had children—John, Isaac and a daughter, who became Mrs. Simon Duryea. The birth of John, who served in the Revolutionary army, occurred January 24, 1760, in Shrewsbury township, where his life was spent. He married, February 16, 1783, Agnes, daughter of John Aumaek, of Freehold township, whose children were Mary, Lena, Elizabeth, Arintha, Jane, Isaac, John, Tunis and William, of whom Elizabeth died in her ninety-eighth year, and William is the only survivor. John Statesir died October 13, 1825, and his wife October 1,

1836. William was born on the 25th of January, 1806, in Shrewsbury, now Atlantic township, and remained during his youth at Colt's Neck, in the latter township, where his father was engaged in the business of a tanner. After such advantages of education as were obtainable at the common schools, he entered the tannery and became familiar with the business. Desiring a less circumscribed field of action, he studied surveying, which for several years engaged his attention in the vicinity of his home. He was, April 20, 1836, married to Sarah Ann, daughter of John Conover, of Freehold, now Marlboro' township, whose children are John Henry (deceased), David Abeel, Agnes and Alphens. Mrs. Statesir died December 6, 1851, and he was a second time married, in January, 1855, to Cornelia Ann, daughter of Arthur Van Derveer, of Atlantic township, whose only child, Eliza R., born November 17, 1855, died on her twenty-fifth birthday. Mr. Statesir, the year following his first marriage, removed to a farm in Marlboro' township, and remained until the spring of 1864. On the organization of the Freehold Banking Company he was elected a director, and in 1864 was made its president, which influenced his removal the same year to Freehold. He has, since that date, made that town his residence, and still retains his official connection with the bank. His fidelity to important trusts has caused him frequently to be chosen as administrator and guardian. He has in politics always been identified either with the Whig or Republican party, but has filled no political office. Mr. Statesir was formerly a member of the First Reformed Church of Freehold, and now holds his membership with the Second Reformed Church of that place, having officiated as elder in both. He has for twenty years been the treasurer of the Monmouth County Bible Society, and is among the most active citizens of the county in the promotion of all philanthropic and Christian projects.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FREEHOLD was incorporated under the National Banking Law, February 24, 1864, and was organized with the following-named board of directors, viz.,—Arthur V. Conover, John Dorrance, Joseph T.







Eng<sup>d</sup> by A. H. Folger

*Wm. L. G. Bates*





Eng.<sup>d</sup> by A.H. Ritchie.

J. M. White





Laird, Joseph D. Bedle, Charles Haight, Charles Allen, Charles A. Bennett, Jacob B. Rue, Philip J. Ryall. Jacob B. Rue was elected president and James Fountain cashier. Mr. Rue continued in the presidency until January, 1883, when he resigned, and was succeeded by the present president, Joseph T. Laird, Esq. In 1865, James Fountain was succeeded as cashier by Isaac B. Edwards, who continued until 1875, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Joseph T. Laird. When Mr. Laird accepted the presidency, J. W. S. Campbell became acting cashier, and on the 8th of January, 1884, was appointed to the cashiership, which he holds at the present time.

The capital of the bank at its organization was \$100,000, which was afterwards increased to \$125,000. In February, 1883, the charter of the bank was renewed, to continue twenty years from that date, and in the same year \$75,000 was refunded to the stockholders, and the capital stock accordingly reduced to \$50,000, still leaving a net surplus of \$50,000. Since the reduction of the capital, three semi-annual dividends of seven per cent. each, have been made.

The banking-house of the institution (a handsome and substantial structure of brick, with brown-stone trimmings) is on the north side of Main Street, between Court and Throckmorton. For more than twelve years after the bank went into operation the building had a front of but eighteen feet on Main Street, but in 1877 it was rebuilt and enlarged to a front of twenty-five feet, with a depth of sixty feet, as it now stands.

The present directors of the bank are Joseph T. Laird (president), Charles Haight, Elihu B. Bedle, William H. Vredenburg and Charles A. Bennett.

JACOB B. RUE, who for nearly thirty years was widely known and prominent as a bank officer of Freehold, being a large stockholder in both the present banks of the place, and holding, at different times, high positions in both, was born on the family homestead in Middlesex County, near Cranbury, October 10, 1827. His father was Joseph I. Rue, a farmer, and his grandfather was John Rue, of Cranbury, a soldier of the Revolution. His mother was

Mary Bergen, daughter of Abraham Bergen, of Middlesex, in the same neighborhood. His education was acquired in the district school. In his boyhood he developed an inclination for mercantile pursuits, and at the age of sixteen years he became a clerk in a store in New York City; but after a short experience there he removed to Freehold, where he entered the store of Colonel William D. Davis as a clerk. In that position he exhibited such an aptitude for business that at the end of about two years, and when he had hardly attained his majority, he was taken into partnership, and so continued until he entered upon his duties as cashier of the Freehold Banking Company. He was active in promoting the establishment of the bank, and was elected its cashier upon the organization of the board of directors, in December, 1855, the bank being opened for business early in the following year. He remained in this position until the organization of the First National Bank of Freehold, when he was elected its first president, and he continued at the head of the institution until the condition of his health warned him to retire, which he did, resigning the position January 1, 1883. His condition was not thought to be immediately alarming, but his health continued precarious, and, with a view to its improvement, he left Freehold with his family on the 9th of February, 1885, and proceeded to Jacksonville, Florida. But the anticipated benefit of the Southern climate was not realized, and he died at Jacksonville on the 19th of the following March.

During all the period of his business life Mr. Rue was largely engaged in buying and selling real estate in Monmouth County, both on his own account and in company with others, who were glad to avail themselves of his accurate judgment and business tact in this line. He was also one of the promoters of the Freehold and Jamesburg Agricultural Railroad, and at the time of his death was one of its directors. In fact, he was foremost in most of the larger business enterprises of Freehold and vicinity almost from the beginning of his career. In all his business relations he was methodical, correct and upright, as may be judged from his long



and uniformly successful career. In his intercourse with the public he was in business matters sometimes brusque and peremptory in his manner, because of his quick perception and the decisive cast of his mind. This caused him to be occasionally misunderstood by men less accustomed to business habits and methods, but he was always just and fair in all his dealings, and ordinarily was easy and affable. He was frank in the expression of his sentiments, and a hearty hater of shams. In his family relations and in the social circle the better traits of his character were exhibited. He was an affectionate and indulgent husband and father, and a warm and reliable friend.

JOSEPH T. LAIRD, for many years a well-known merchant at Colt's Neck, and now president of the first National Bank of Freehold, is a grandson of Robert Laird, a soldier of the Revolution, who was a descendant of one of three brothers (Alexander, William and Robert Laird) who emigrated from Scotland and settled in East New Jersey before the year 1700. Robert Laird, the descendant of one of these brothers, was born April 7, 1758, and died June 3, 1811. His wife, Elizabeth, was born May 12, 1754, and died April 13, 1833. Their home was at Englishtown. They had two daughters—Sarah (Mrs. Thomas Walton) and Charlotte (Mrs. James Herbert)—and four sons,—John A., Benjamin, Samuel and Elisha,—none of whom are now living. John A. (who received a better education than either of the other sons) went South and died there early in life; Benjamin, who was a well-known hotel-keeper at Freehold and other places in Monmouth County, died at his son's house at Long Branch; Samuel was the father of the subject of this biography, as more fully mentioned below; Elisha, the youngest of Robert Laird's sons, remained a bachelor, and died at Colt's Neck, September 12, 1863. For more than thirty years, and until the time of his death, he had been engaged in a general mercantile business at Colt's Neck. He was county collector from 1856 to 1862, and was a man widely known and universally respected.

Samuel Laird, third son of Robert, was born February 1, 1787. In 1817 he became pro-

prietor of the hotel at Colt's Neck, which he kept continuously for forty-two years, and died there July 5, 1859. His wife was Eleanor Tilton, who was born May 16, 1795, and died June 1, 1848. She was a daughter of John Tilton, a Revolutionary soldier, who lived in what is now Atlantic township, north of Colt's Neck. He was living there at the time of the battle of Monmouth, and had his cattle taken from him by the British troops, who were guided by his Tory neighbors to the place where he had concealed the cattle in a swamp. In the latter years of his life Mr. Tilton lived with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Laird, and he died in their house at Colt's Neck about fifty years ago.

The children of Samuel Laird were eleven in number, viz.,—Sarah, Benjamin (who died in infancy), Alice, John T., Joseph T., Elizabeth, James, Malvina, Mary (died May 29, 1839), Robert and Mary S. Laird, of whom only the three brothers, Joseph I., James and Robert, at present are living.

Joseph T. Laird, son of Samuel and Eleanor (Tilton) Laird, was born at his father's house at Colt's Neck, February 12, 1824. His earliest education was obtained at the public schools; afterwards he attended for about two years at the old Freehold Academy, then under charge of Professor A. W. Hobart, and a shorter term at the same academy under W. W. Woodhull. During all the years of his boyhood and youth he lived with his father, whose hotel at Colt's Neck was the stopping-place for the lines of stages then running from Bordentown to Long Branch. Mr. Laird also usually had in his charge many valuable blooded horses, in which his son Joseph very naturally took considerable interest, and being then young, light and active, he became a very expert rider. Among Mr. Laird's horses was one which was managed and trained by himself, and which became the most famous racer then in America. This was the celebrated mare "Fashion," which, in her memorable contest against the noted horse "Boston," at Union Course, L. I., on the 10th of May, 1842, was ridden by the boy "Joe Laird," making the best race which up to that time had ever been run on this side of the Atlantic. He was also







*Jos J. Laird*



the rider of "Fashion" in all her other public contests on the turf.

In 1846, Joseph T. Laird became a partner with his uncle, Elisha Laird (under the firm-name of Elisha Laird & Co.), in a general merchandise business, which the latter had established about 1830, in a store which had been occupied for the same purpose during the Revolutionary struggle, it being part of the historic old house which was the home of the patriot Captain Joshua Huddy until he was murdered by Tory Refugees, in 1782.

The partnership of Elisha Laird & Co. remained without change until about 1859, when, by the admission of James, brother of Joseph T. Laird, the firm-name was changed to E. & J. T. Laird & Co., and so continued until the death of Elisha Laird, in 1863. From that time it was J. T. & J. Laird until 1865, when the business was sold out, and Joseph T. Laird removed to Freehold, where, in the previous year he had been elected one of the first board of directors of the then established First National Bank of Freehold. He was one of the original stockholders, and has been continuously a director of the bank from its organization to the present time.

For about two years after Mr. Laird's removal to Freehold he was an active assistant in the bank. In 1868 he formed a partnership with C. C. Bowne in the house-furnishing and furniture business, which was continued until 1872, when the firm was dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Laird. In 1875 he was elected cashier of the bank, Jacob B. Rue being then its president. On December 31, 1882, Mr. Rue retired and Mr. Laird was elected president, in which office he still continues. He is a working president, giving as close attention to the details of the business as when he was cashier, and under his incumbency the bank has reached a condition of prosperity and strength altogether unusual in its history.

Mr. Laird was one of the first assistant commissioners of the town of Freehold, elected in 1869, the year of its incorporation. In the following year he was elected commissioner of the town (a position without salary or emolument of any kind), and held the office continuously

until 1875. During that term a large part of the public improvements of Freehold were made (including the construction of sidewalks and erection of lamp-posts), and the Fire Department was organized. When the steam fire-engine had been procured, in 1874, it was necessary that there should be a place to house it, and as there was no suitable building to be had for the purpose, and the town had no authority under its charter to build one, Messrs. Joseph T. Laird, Thomas W. Ryall, D. C. Perrine and Gilbert Combs purchased a lot on Throckmorton Street, and erected upon it the engine-house now in use, paying for the lot and building out of their own private means, trusting to the probability of the passage of an amendment to the town charter authorizing payment for the house and lot. At the ensuing session of the Legislature the amendment was passed permitting the issue of bonds, from the proceeds of which they were reimbursed for the expenditure which they had made on their own responsibility for the public good, amounting to nearly seven thousand dollars.

In October, 1872, Mr. Laird was married to Mary, daughter of John Evans, of Fryeburg, Me. Their surviving children are, Marion, Joseph T. and Eleanor, their youngest child, Samuel E., having deceased September 16, 1884.

THE MONMOUTH COUNTY MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY was incorporated February 18, 1858. Names of corporators,—Joseph Combs, Horatio Ely, George Taylor, Daniel H. Ellis, Henry C. Patterson, Joseph H. Rosell, William V. Ward, John R. Haley, William D. Davis, Austin H. Patterson, James Cooper, Charles Butcher, Charles H. Conover, John Barricko, William P. Forman, James M. Smith, Elisha Laird, John N. Conover, Jacob Herbert and Peter S. Conover. The charter named the persons<sup>1</sup> who should be the first directors of the company until an election for directors should be held, according to the provisions of the charter, viz,—Joseph Combs,\* Horatio Ely, Joseph H. Rosell, John R. Haley, William D. Davis,\* James

<sup>1</sup>Those marked with \* are dead.





Cooper, Charles Butcher,\* Charles H. Conover,\* William P. Forman, James M. Smith, John N. Conover, Jacob Herbert and Peter S. Conover.\*

On April 10, 1856, the directors held their first regular meeting, and Joseph Combs was chosen president, William T. Hoffman secretary, and Joseph H. Rosell treasurer. At a special meeting held March 12, 1859, William T. Hoffman was relieved from the office of secretary, and Charles A. Bennett was appointed secretary in his place.

The present directors of the company (in the year 1884) are George W. Shinn, James Cooper, Joseph H. Rosell, James M. Smith, Henry Bennett, Horatio Ely, John N. Conover, William N. Sickles, William Spader, Peter Forman, Charles E. Hall, Charles H. Snyder, James Lippincott. The officers are George W. Shinn, president; Charles A. Bennett, secretary; and Joseph H. Rosell, treasurer.

The company has been in successful operation from its beginning, and, although it has paid a large amount of money for losses, it has never, during the thirty-six years of its existence, had to resort to an assessment to pay any of its obligations.

According to the report made to the Secretary of State, December 31, 1883, the company had: insurances outstanding, \$2,234,212; premium notes on hand, \$121,637; risks written during the year 1883, \$261,390; premium notes received, \$17,745; total cash assets, \$6076.39; losses during the year 1883, 1429.50; cash receipts, \$3451.58.

Expenditures, including payment of losses of 1882, \$4586.09; number of members in the company or notes, 1627.

THE FREEHOLD GAS-LIGHT COMPANY was incorporated March 20, 1857. Corporators,—James S. Lawrence, Enoch L. Cowart, David C. Perrine, Charles A. Bennett, John R. Haley, William H. Conover and Aaron R. Throckmorton. The capital stock, is thirty thousand dollars.

Books of subscription were opened June 6, 1857. Charles B. Waring subscribed for four hundred shares, amounting to ten thousand

dollars. He assigned shares to Oliver R. Willis, James S. Lawrence, William H. Conover, Alfred Walters, on September 28, 1857. These constituted all the stockholders of the company. October 19, 1857, the stockholders met at the hotel of Conover & Carson, in Freehold, and elected five directors, viz.: James S. Lawrence, Oliver R. Willis, William H. Conover, Alfred Walters, Charles B. Waring. At the first meeting of the directors, October 24, 1857, James S. Lawrence was elected president, Oliver R. Willis secretary and treasurer, and Alfred Walters superintendent. At a subsequent meeting, October 29, 1858, Charles B. Waring was appointed under an agreement, in writing, with full control to carry on the enterprise, and he proceeded to erect the gas-works in their present location and lay down the street mains, etc., and lighted the town of Freehold with gas on the first of the year 1859. Some of the citizens of the town of Freehold not being able to get Mr. Waring to extend the mains of the gas company so that they might get the gas served to them in their dwellings, applied to the Legislature<sup>2</sup> for a charter for another gas

<sup>2</sup>The following petition was presented to the General Assembly, February 16, 1860:

"The subscribers, residents of Freehold, Monmouth County, New Jersey, hereby respectfully petition your honorable body to grant to the citizens of our village a charter for a gas company, for the purpose of supplying, at a reasonable price, a good quality of gas. There is already a company, with gas-works built in our village, but we respectfully represent that the whole stock of said company (with the exception of enough nominal stockholders here to make up the number of directors required by the charter) is owned by a person or persons outside of the State of New Jersey, whose object seems to be wholly for profit, without a proper regard to the wants and situation of the villagers. That the gas most generally furnished is of an inferior quality, emitting at times such an odor that some of our citizens have been compelled to turn it off, and be deprived of its use. That the price charged for it is so exorbitant that some of our merchants are about to abandon its use for the present. That we believe that a much better article, and at a much lower price could be furnished. That the said company has been remonstrated with upon the quality and price of their gas, and that no change has been made. We further represent that the amount of main pipe put down in said village is very inadequate to the wants of the citizens. For these and other reasons we petition that a new Company may be chartered, with most of the stock to be owned in Freehold, so that we may be fully supplied with a good article of



company, and in March 14, 1860, an act was passed to incorporate "The Citizens' Gas-Light Company of Freehold," the incorporators being John R. Haley, William H. Conover, Daniel H. Ellis, Joseph D. Bedle, Isaac McNulty, David C. Perrine, Daniel B. Ryall, Thomas P. Barkalow, Rowland A. Ellis, John R. Conover, Henry C. Patterson, Charles A. Bennett and Henry Bennett. This latter company did not fully organize. On May 14, 1860, Mr. Waring, then and at the organization of the Freehold Gas-Light Company owning all the capital stock except four shares, sold his entire interest in the company to Daniel H. Ellis, John R. Haley, Charles A. Bennett, Joseph D. Bedle, David Clark Perrine, John R. Conover, Rowland A. Ellis and Isaac McNulty. All the old directors resigned, and Daniel H. Ellis, Joseph D. Bedle, C. A. Bennett, John R. Haley and John R. Conover were elected directors for the new owners, and Daniel M. Ellis was chosen president, Charles A. Bennett secretary, and David C. Perrine treasurer. The gas-works continued to be run under the first charter up to the present time. The present officers of the company are David C. Perrine, president; Charles A. Bennett, secretary and treasurer; and William S. Freeman, superintendent. There are five directors,—D. C. Perrine, Alfred Walters, Henry Bennett, Chas. B. Ellis and Chas. A. Bennett.

On April 14, 1869, the gas-works were all burned down, which was caused by the acts of the agents of the Pneumatic Gas Company, who were trying to introduce their oil gas into these works. The company resolved to rebuild and put up large works of a very substantial character, sufficient to supply a town three times as large as Freehold. The gas was furnished from the new works February 4, 1870. The town is supplied with a good quality of gas, and the company is very liberally patronized by the citizens. Their gas is used in all the public buildings, and in nearly all the better class of stores and private buildings. It is also used to some extent for heating and cooking purposes, and for running gas-engines.

gas at a fair price." This petition resulted in the passage of the act incorporating the Citizens' Gas-Light Company.

THE FREEHOLD FIRE DEPARTMENT is of recent origin, having been in existence less than twelve years. With the exception of some two or three dozen buckets, which had been purchased and kept for some years in Freehold, to be used in case of fire by passing them, filled with water, along a line of men to the place where needed, and then returning them empty along another line of persons of less physical strength, there was no apparatus for the extinguishment of fires until about 1850, when a small hand-engine was purchased. This machine, which, as is said by those who remember it, was never of much, if any, practical utility, was in existence (and presumably kept ready for use) in 1854, as a reference to it is found in the newspapers of that time. But it appears that such was not the case in 1855, for in that year, at a meeting of citizens held at Cox's Hotel on the day when the court-house was partially burned, it was stated by Mr. Vredenburg that Freehold had then no fire apparatus, and he urged that some measures be taken at once to supply the need, which was the object for which the meeting had been called. David C. Perrine, Joseph Combs and W. H. Conover were then appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions for the purpose, but the effort did not prove successful, though the people were several times in that year reminded of their insecurity by the occurrence of several fires,—of Danser's barn, Burns' shoemaker-shop, on South Street, and others. The matter was kept in agitation at intervals, but without result, for a considerable number of years.

The purchase of the hook-and-ladder apparatus, in June, 1872, was the first effectual step taken towards the formation of a serviceable Fire Department in Freehold. A company was organized called the Good-Will and a house built for the truck in the rear of the block next below the court-house. At the great fire of October 30, 1873, which destroyed the court-house and all the buildings on the north side of Main Street, up to the First National Bank building, this company and apparatus performed invaluable service in demolishing the building between the Vought mansion and the bank, thus checking the progress of the fire in





that direction, and probably saving the town from the disaster of widespread conflagration.

The great fire in 1873 reawakened the people to a sense of their danger from lack of sufficient fire apparatus and to the necessity of procuring a steam fire-engine. In the spring of 1874 a steamer was purchased conditionally, and on Friday, May 22d, in that year, the machine, with two hose-carriages, reached Freehold, and was put on trial the same day. With imperfect arrangements for firing, the gauge showed seventy pounds of steam in seven minutes. The engine (weighing four thousand five hundred pounds) was warranted by the builder, Richard Harrell, of Paterson, to throw one stream two hundred and forty feet or two streams one hundred and ninety feet, through one hundred feet of hose, and one hundred and fifty feet through one thousand feet of hose. The trial resulting satisfactorily, the steamer was accepted by the commissioners, and a company was organized, the first officers of which (elected at a meeting held on the 3d of June) were: Foreman, W. H. Hendricks; first Assistant, B. White; Second Assistant, John W. Hulse; Engineer, Edwin Bawden; First Assistant Engineer, John Buck; Second Assistant Engineer, W. H. Hart.

The new Fire Department, consisting of the steamer Freehold, No. 1, the Good-Will truck, with their companies and the corporation officers, joined in a parade on the 10th of June, making an excellent appearance and receiving general commendation. The first chief was John Bawden, who held the office seven years. The steamer was kept in the barn of Honorable Holmes W. Murphy during the construction of the present engine-house, on Throckmorton Avenue, and on the completion of the building, in the fall of 1874, it was occupied, as at present, by the steamer, the truck and other apparatus of the department. In the same year a number of cisterns of large capacity were constructed at the most accessible and convenient points in the town, with facilities to keep them filled with water for the use of the steamer when needed.

The steamer company now numbers forty members; that of the truck, thirty-two. The

following named are the present (1884) officers of the department and of the companies:

President, I. J. Grimshaw; Vice-President, D. V. Perrine; Secretary, W. W. Cannon; Treasurer, Charles H. Butcher; Chief, G. C. Hulett; Assistant, J. W. Hulse.

Foreman of Truck, H. H. Clayton; Assistant, A. H. Schanck; Foreman of Steamer, William Brown; First Assistant, C. P. White; Second Assistant, William Burrell; Third Assistant, P. De Roche.

**THE FREEHOLD FOUNDRY AND MACHINE SHOPS**, now owned and operated by Combs & Bawden, were started in the summer of 1856, by John Bawden, whose first advertisement, dated November 6th, in that year, announced that he was prepared to furnish iron railing, mill-work and agricultural castings. The business was not very remunerative, and not long afterwards Mr. Gilbert Combs became associated with Mr. Bawden, under the firm-name of Combs & Bawden, as at present. For fourteen years from the commencement the business continued to languish, and in 1869 and 1870 it seemed extremely unpromising. Additional capital was then invested, the buildings and facilities were enlarged from time to time; prosperity followed and has continued until the present time. Their specialty now is grate, fender, and other kinds of ornamental iron-work. A single order, for the Palace Hotel, at San Francisco, was taken (through New York parties) and filled by this firm, amounting to twenty thousand dollars,—the heaviest order for that kind of work ever filled in America or Europe. The works (foundry, machine-shop and planing-mill) embrace four brick buildings, located on the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad, near the Freehold Station. Messrs. Combs & Bawden give employment to about fifty men.

**JOHN BAWDEN.**—The history of Mr. John Bawden, the founder of the Freehold Iron Foundry and Machine-Shop, is one that well deserves to be recorded as an example of true heroism in a struggle with adverse circumstances in early life, and of triumph over difficulties encountered in maturer years. His success has been achieved through a





W. H. A. 1870

John Bowden





display of courage, perseverance and close attention to honest business principles rarely equaled. He was born in the town of Gwin-car, in the county of Cornwall, England, on the 10th of April, 1827. His father was John Bawden and his mother was Sally Malachi, both of the same county. His father was a blacksmith and contractor for furnishing blacksmith work for the tin-mines in the county. By the financial failure of mining operations there about the year 1830 or 1831, he was reduced in circumstances, when he resolved to emigrate to America. The family, which consisted of father, mother and seven children, went first to Pottsville, and then to Philadelphia. Of the latter city the subject of our sketch has a distinct recollection. It was during the "cholera year" (1832), and he remembers seeing the sick and dying carried through the streets on stretchers. About 1834 the family removed to New York, and he remembers being there when the great fire, during the winter of 1835-36, occurred. They then removed to Yorkville, where his father was employed in making tools for the quarrymen, who excavated the tunnel at that place for the Hudson River Railroad, and he was one of a party of boys who, when the quarrymen met in the centre of the tunnel from opposite sides of the work, were the first to crawl through the opening. This year his mother died, and the care of the children devolved upon the elder sisters. The children were now thrown largely upon their own resources. Mr. Bawden, then a boy of ten years, obtained employment with a gold-beater, and afterwards as an errand-boy in a shoe-store, and as an assistant in a rope-walk, going to the public schools at intervals until he was fifteen, when he went into William Buckley's brass foundry, in Cannon Street, still carried on by Buckley's grandson on the same spot. He worked here for two years, and one year at another brass foundry in the city. In 1845 he went into James L. Jackson's iron foundry, then on Stanton Street, where he served as apprentice and journeyman until he removed to Freehold in 1856. Here, in the fall of that year, he commenced business in a small building twenty-four by thirty-six feet, on the site of the

present main building. At first his work was confined to the jobbing of the neighborhood, such as plow-castings, iron railings and light machinery. He worked with his own hands in every detail of the business, and for several years scarcely succeeded in maintaining his family. In fact, he was more than once on the verge of abandoning the struggle. Subsequently he formed a co-partnership with Mr. Gilbert Combs, and the business was enlarged by adding to it the sale of agricultural implements and farm machinery, which was then coming into use in this section. Supplied now with necessary capital, and with the relief from a portion of the labor of the enterprise which the partnership afforded, Mr. Bawden was enabled to give his entire attention to the development of the mechanical branch of the business, in which he excelled. The superiority of the work of the foundry, especially in the line of light castings, soon attracted attention, and brought contracts which obliged the firm to enlarge their facilities from time to time, and to increase the number of their employes, until it has grown to the ample proportions that it now enjoys, the little frame structure having given way to the extensive brick one that now occupies its site.

Mr. Bawden was married, July 26, 1847, to Miss Eleanor H. Blair, of New York City, whose mother was a native of Middletown, in Monmouth. She died December 9, 1856, at Greenpoint (now a part of the city of Brooklyn), L. I., pending the removal of the family to Freehold. Four children were the fruit of this union, two of whom are living,—Mr. John H. Bawden, who is associated with the firm of Combs & Bawden in the management of the foundry, and Eleanor H., wife of Mr. E. B. H. Tower, of Washington, D. C. Mr. Bawden's present wife was Miss Charlotte L. Conover, daughter of Cornelius D. Conover, of Lower Squankum, in this county. They were married on the 7th of December, 1859, but have had no children. Mrs. Bawden's mother was Johanna Rogers, daughter of Samuel Rogers, of Manalapan; her maternal grandmother was Mary Freeman, who was born in 1777, in the old Tennent parsonage, on the battle-field of Monmouth, and died in 1865,



aged over eighty-eight years. Her parents resided in the parsonage at the time the battle was fought, and it was a family tradition that the family vacated the premises on that occasion and took refuge in the woods.

Mr. Bawden became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Greenpoint in March, 1855. Upon his removal to Freehold, he transferred his membership to the church here, and has since remained a consistent, active and zealous member of it, having for a number of years been connected with its official board as steward and trustee, and a liberal contributor, according to his means, to the support of the church and its institutions. Politically, he has been identified with the Republican party on national questions but in local matters he has acted independently, supporting those men and measures, without respect to party that he deemed to be for the best interests of the public. He has never sought office, but when the Fire Department of Freehold was organized he was elected chief engineer, which post he filled ably and with fidelity until the annual election of 1883, a period of nine years, when he declined a re-election. During his incumbency of this position he represented the department at the annual conventions of engineers of the United States and Canada at Boston and Richmond. At the great fire in Freehold, in 1873, previous to the organization of the Fire Department, Mr. Bawden distinguished himself by his labors, and through his intelligent efforts and skill the fire was prevented from spreading below the court-house, and so the lower part of the town was saved from destruction. In 1883 he was appointed a member of the Board of Health of the town, and was made president of the board, which position he still fills acceptably.

Mr. Bawden is still in the prime of life, giving daily his personal supervision to the details of his large and increasing business. Some years ago he purchased the dwelling on the corner of Manalapan Avenue and Broad Street, and furnished it luxuriously, improving the grounds and adding a conservatory for flowers, which is the admiration of the neighborhood, and for the cultivation of which both himself

and his wife have a passion. Here, surrounded by family and friends, and with the respect and esteem of the community, he enjoys his hours of leisure.

OLIVE BRANCH LODGE, No. 16, F. and A.M., has had an existence of more than thirty-five years, and is the lineal successor of an ancient lodge which was organized here nearly a century ago. The history of Olive Branch Lodge, which follows, prefaced by a brief account of Freemasonry in Monmouth County, was compiled and arranged by Major James S. Yard, of the *Monmouth Democrat*, and published by a committee of the lodge appointed for that purpose.

There are no records of Freemasonry in New Jersey before the organization of the Grand Lodge in 1786. Previous to that time lodges derived their authority, directly or indirectly, from the Grand Lodges of England. During the War of the Revolution the records of these lodges were lost or destroyed. From the records of the Grand Lodge of England it appears that in 1730, Daniel Coxe, of New Jersey, was appointed Provincial Grand Master of the provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, but it nowhere appears that he ever exercised any authority as such. This Daniel Coxe was a wealthy citizen of Gloucester County, a member of the Council of the notorious Lord Cornbury and Speaker of the Assembly during a portion of the administration of Governor Hunter. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1739, he was a justice of the Supreme Court.

In 1794 "The Grand Lodge of London, in Great Britain," established a Provincial Grand Lodge for the Province of Pennsylvania, and this Provincial Grand Lodge, according to its records, issued warrants to several lodges in New Jersey. At a meeting on December 20th, 1779, a warrant was granted to William Bostwick, Master, Isaiah Wool, Senior Warden, and Motte, Junior Warden,<sup>1</sup> "for a new lodge to be

<sup>1</sup> These were probably officers in the Continental army who were made Masons in an Army Lodge, as we find that William Bostwick was a lieutenant in Captain William Gordon's company of the Third Establishment, and John Motte was captain of the Fifth Company in the same organization. The Mott family in Monmouth County came, from Rhode Island, and was related to Nathaniel Green





held at Middleton" (Middletown), in Monmouth County. This is the first lodge of which there is any record in this county. It had probably become extinct prior to the organization of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as no mention is made of it at that time.

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey was organized at a Convention of Free and Accepted Masons of the State, held at New Brunswick, December 18, 1786. At this meeting were present from Monmouth, Richard Lloyd, holding membership in Lodge No. 1, of Albany, N. Y., and Jonathan Rhea, of No. 19 on the register of Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. At a subsequent meeting, at the same place, January 30, 1787, a dispensation was granted to Jonathan Rhea to open a lodge at Freehold, a warrant to be issued at the expiration of that time. At the session of April 3d, the same year, there were present from Monmouth, Jonathan Rhea M.; Richard Lloyd, S. W.; and Thomas Leland, J. W. Among the visitors appears the name of Barnes H. Smock,—doubtless Captain Smock. The lodges represented balloted for their numbers; Monmouth drew No. 3, and the dispensations were extended for three months longer. On July 3d, of the same year, another session of the Grand Lodge was held at Trenton, when the following minute appears upon the records:

"Ordered, That a warrant be issued, agreeably to the above application, for a lodge to be hereafter held in the county of Monmouth, to be distinguished by the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 3; Brother Rhea having paid the treasurer the sum of £10 5s. 0d., agreeable to the rule, for a warrant and one member who has been initiated."

At this session "Major Richard Lloyd" officiated as S. G. W. *pro tem.*, and on the next day (July 4th) General David Forman, of No. 3, appears as a visitor.

At a session of the Grand Lodge held at New Brunswick, June 23, 1788, the names of the following persons appear as visitors from

Monmouth Lodge, viz.: "Richard Lloyd, Esq., Elisha Lawrence, Thomas Barber, Benjamin Rogers, Barnes Smock, David Rhea, Benajah Osman, William Lloyd, James English, General David Forman, James Rogers, Esq., A. Lane, tyler."<sup>2</sup>

At the session of July 3, 1789, Trinity, No. 3, was represented by Jonathan Rhea, M.; David Forman, J. W.; and James R. English, Treasurer.

On January 5, 1790, the Grand Lodge met at Freehold, when David Rhea officiated as G. S. D., and Richard Lloyd as G. J. D. *pro tem.* The session of July 6th, following, was held at Trenton, and Trinity, No. 3, was represented by Jonathan Rhea, Anthony F. Taylor and James Rogers (no titles given). At this session the time of meeting of Trinity Lodge is recorded as on the first Monday in each month.

At the session of January 11, 1791, Jonathan Rhea, Esq., was elected Junior Grand Warden. At the session of December 27th, the same year, Trinity Lodge was represented by Hon. Elisha Lawrence, Master; William Lloyd, Junior Warden; and Elisha Newell. At the election of officers, Jonathan Rhea withdrew his name from the list of candidates, and Hon. Elisha Lawrence was unanimously elected Junior Grand Warden.

At the session of December 31, 1792, Elisha Lawrence appeared as Senior Grand Warden *pro tem.*, but Trinity Lodge is reported not represented. At the semi-annual session, June 24, 1793, it was represented by Jonathan Rhea, Master, and John Freeman. Eleven lodges appear upon the rolls. At this session the warrant of Trinity Lodge was surrendered, but its name was not struck from the rolls until January 8, 1800. The Master, in surrendering the warrant, "prayed the indulgence of the lodge for time to make up their accounts, and assured the lodge that all monies due the lodge

the "Quaker General" of the Revolution. Gershom Mott is a common name on the old records of Monmouth, and General Gershom Mott, of Trenton, a distinguished officer of the late war, was a descendant of that family.

<sup>2</sup>Nearly all of these brethren were officers in the Continental army. Lane was an ensign; David Rhea, lieutenant colonel; Jonathan Rhea, ensign; Richard Lloyd, captain; David Forman, colonel and general of militia; Elisha Lawrence, colonel; Thomas Barber, surgeon; James Rogers, ensign; James English, surgeon's mate; Barnes Smock, captain; Benajah Osman, lieutenant.



should be honorably and punctually paid." These moneys, as appears by the records, were subsequently paid. After this time the name of Jonathan Rhea occasionally appears in the minutes of the Grand Lodge as a member of No. 5, at Trenton, of which he became an officer. He was also treasurer of the Grand Lodge for several years.

At the session held on November 10, 1807, a warrant was granted to John Mott, Master, Robert Shannon, S. W., Jesse Hedges, J. W., for a lodge at Middletown Point, in the county of Monmouth, by the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 20. A warrant for Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34, was granted November 14, 1815, John P. Lewis, M.; Jonathan Morris, S. W.; and Alexander McGregor, J. W.

In 1832, out of fifty-seven lodges instituted up to that time, only four were represented in the Grand Lodge. This was probably in a great measure due to the Anti-Masonic excitement, which commenced about the year 1826, and raged for several years, during which time many of the lodges ceased labor. At the session of the Grand Lodge, Nov. 13, 1838, there were not funds enough in the hands of the treasurer to pay the tiler four dollars, voted for his services.

At the session held November 9, 1841, the Grand Secretary reported, of fifty-seven lodges warranted in the State, only eight were in working order,—seven had been stricken off (among them Trinity, No. 20), nine had surrendered their warrants (among them Trinity, No. 3), thirty-three had ceased their work, but retained their warrants (among them Shrewsbury Washington, No. 34). At the session of 1842 all the lodges were stricken off, leaving but eight lodges in existence within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. These lodges were then re-numbered from No. 1 to No. 8. Washington Shrewsbury, although recorded among those stricken off, was allowed to rank as No. 9.

At the session of 1843 the Grand Master, in his report, states that he had received a communication from Worshipful John P. Lewis, Past Master of Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, and fourteen others, members of said lodge,

stating that they had not held any regular meetings since the year 1835, and that their lodge-room had been entered by thieves and their warrant and jewels stolen, and that they wished to reopen and resuscitate their lodge. He had accordingly granted them a dispensation for that purpose. At this session a new warrant was granted to that lodge.

The cloud under which the institution of Freemasonry had rested throughout the United States since the persecution, which began in 1826, had now dispersed, and it began to revive in this State. Among the first to feel the effects of it were Masons of Freehold. They made application to Worshipful Grand Master John P. Lewis, then a resident of Eatontown, in this county, and a member of Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, who granted a dispensation to John B. Throckmorton, Samuel Laird, Rufus Bergen, Hugh Newell, James W. Andrews, William D. Davis, John D. Cottrel and David C. Conover, to form a lodge at Freehold to be hailed as Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16. This was the title and number of a lodge located "at Phillipsburg, in the county of Sussex," for which a warrant was granted January 9, 1799, and was among those stricken off at the session of 1842. It would seem that coming in as No. 16, the founders of this lodge accepted the old title anciently attached to the number. The dispensation was granted on the 20th day of October, 1849, and on the same day the Grand Master convened an emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge at Odd-Fellows' Hall, in Freehold, and installed John B. Throckmorton Master, Samuel Laird Senior Warden, and Rufus Bergen Junior Warden of the new lodge, "with full power and authority to enter, pass and raise to the sublime degree of Master Mason such candidates as may be found worthy and well qualified;" upon which the work was commenced and progressed until the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, on the 9th of January, 1850, when a warrant was granted to John B. Throckmorton, master; Samuel Laird, senior warden; and John Vought, junior warden. In his address at this session the Grand Master, referring to this lodge while working under





dispensation, said: "In company with a number of brothers of Washington Lodge I have visited them and assisted them several times in making, passing and raising candidates of the first respectability and standing in society. The character and conduct of the officers and brethren of this lodge warrant the belief that it will do honor to the fraternity."

The following persons have filled the offices since then:

*Worshipful Masters.*

1850, John B. Throckmorton; 1851, Samuel Laird; 1857, Jehu Patterson; 1858, Holmes W. Murphy; 1859, James S. Yard; 1860, Isaac S. Buckalew; 1865, Aaron R. Throckmorton; 1867, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1868, George C. Beekman; 1871, Alexander A. Yard; 1873, Aaron R. Throckmorton; 1874, William J. Butcher; 1875, James B. Craig; 1876, Aaron C. Hart; 1877, Henry W. Long; 1878, Henry W. Long; 1879, Jacob C. Lawrence, P. M.; 1880, Alfred Walters; 1881, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1882, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1883, Jacob C. Lawrence, P. M.

*Senior Wardens.*

1850, Samuel Laird; 1851, Jehu Patterson; 1857, John Vought; 1858, James S. Yard; 1859, Isaac S. Buckalew; 1860, Joseph D. Bedle; 1861, Alfred Walters; 1863, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1864, Aaron R. Throckmorton; 1865, George C. Beekman; 1866, John Bawden; 1867, Charles Ellis; 1869, Joseph T. Laird; 1870, Alexander A. Yard; 1871, Acton C. Hartshorne; 1872, William J. Butcher; 1874, James B. Craig; 1875, Aaron C. Hart; 1876, Henry W. Long; 1877, George C. Beekman; 1878, Edward H. Duncan; 1879, Amos Lippincott; 1880, William Segoine; 1881, Edward H. Duncan; 1882, Edward H. Duncan; 1883, Joseph McDermott.

*Junior Wardens.*

1850, John Vought; 1857, Charles A. Bennett; 1858, Henry C. Patterson; 1859, Joseph D. Bedle; 1860, Alfred Walters; 1862, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1863, Aaron R. Throckmorton; 1864, John Bawden; 1866, Charles Ellis; 1867, William H. Howell; 1868, Acton C. Hartshorne; 1869, Alexander A. Yard; 1870, Marcus B. Taylor; 1871, Edwin F. Applegate; 1872, Thomas C. Swift; 1874, George C. Hulett; 1875, George S. Courter; 1876, James S. Magee; 1877, Edward W. Duncan; 1878, William L. Conover; 1879, Alfred Walters; 1880, Charles Hartzheim; 1881, Joseph McDermott; 1882, Joseph McDermott; 1883, William W. Burnett.

*Secretaries.*

1850, William D. Davis; 1851, Charles A. Bennett; 1857, Holmes W. Murphy; 1858, Isaac S. Buckalew;

1859, James T. Burtis; 1862, Charles Ellis; 1864, William H. Howell; 1865, Stewart Brown; 1866, James B. Morris; 1867, Robert P. Miller; 1869, Thomas C. Swift; 1872, Aaron C. Hart; 1875, Philip E. Cline; 1876, James B. Craig; 1877, Aaron C. Hart; 1878, Aaron C. Hart; 1879, Aaron C. Hart, P. M.; 1880, Aaron C. Hart; 1881, Aaron C. Hart; 1882, Aaron C. Hart; 1883, Aaron C. Hart, P. M.

*Treasurers.*

1850, Hugh Newell; 1851, John B. Throckmorton; 1857, John W. Welch; 1859, Henry C. Patterson; 1862, John Dorrance; 1863, James T. Burtis; 1865, Joseph H. Rosell; 1878, James T. Burtis; 1879, James T. Burtis; 1880, James T. Burtis; 1881, James T. Burtis; 1882, James T. Burtis; 1883, James T. Burtis.

*Senior Deacons.*

1850, Peter Parker; 1857, Isaac S. Buckalew; 1858, Joseph D. Bedle; 1860, James S. Yard; 1861, Aaron R. Throckmorton; 1863, Charles S. Golden; 1864, George C. Beekman; 1865, William Segoine; 1866, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1867, Acton C. Hartshorne; 1868, Peter Forman; 1869, Lemuel Dey; 1870, Aaron C. Hart; 1872, James B. Craig; 1873, William C. Chambers; 1874, William Segoine; 1875, Henry W. Long; 1876, William L. Conover; 1878, Amos Lippincott; 1879, James B. Craig; 1880, Jacob C. Lawrence; 1881, James H. Shepherd; 1882, Alfred Walters; 1883, Edward Martin.

*Junior Deacons.*

1850, David Craig Conover; 1851, John C. Cox; 1857, James S. Yard; 1858, Peter Parker; 1860, Alfred A. Miller; 1866, Robert P. Miller; 1867, Alfred A. Miller; 1868, Thomas E. Morris; 1869, Joseph W. Hulse; 1871, George C. Hulett; 1874, Britton C. Clayton; 1876, Philip E. Cline; 1877, Ira A. Lockwood; 1878, James H. Shepherd; 1879, James H. Shepherd; 1880, James H. Shepherd; 1881, Charles Hartzheim; 1882, Charles Hartzheim; 1883, Charles A. Clark.

*Tilers.*

1850, Rufus Bergen; 1857, Charles W. Conover; 1860, Anthony Frey; 1864, Robert P. Miller; 1865, Anthony Frey; 1870, George C. Hulett; 1871, Joseph S. W. Douglass; 1873, Britton C. Clayton; 1874, Edward A. Fordham; 1875, George C. Hulett; 1876, Edward W. Duncan; 1877, A. M. T. Flandreau; 1878, A. M. T. Flandreau; 1879, Edward H. Duncan; 1880, B. C. Clayton; 1881, B. C. Clayton; 1882, B. C. Clayton; 1883, William L. Conover.

*Chaplains.*

1862, Thomas J. Taylor; 1865, Wilbur F. Nields; 1868, W. W. Moffett; 1871-84, Andrew G. Chambers.

*Finance Committee.*

1851.—Jehu Patterson, John Vought, John C. Cox.



1859.—Holmes W. Murphy, William D. Davis, George W. Patterson.

1860.—William D. Davis, Rowland A. Ellis, Joseph H. Rosell.

1861.—William D. Davis, Rowland A. Ellis, Joseph H. Rosell.

1862.—William D. Davis, Philip J. Ryall, Joseph H. Rosell.

1864.—William D. Davis, Rowland A. Ellis, J. C. Lawrence.

1865.—Rowland A. Ellis, Alfred Walters, William H. Howell.

1866.—J. C. Lawrence, George C. Beekman, Alfred Walters.

1868.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, Henry Bennett.

1869.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph S. Conover, A. R. Throckmorton.

1870.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, James H. Magee.

1871.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, Joseph S. Conover.

1872.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, Joseph S. Conover.

1873.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, Joseph S. Conover.

1874.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, William Segoine.

1875.—J. C. Lawrence, Joseph T. Laird, Lewis A. Hoffman.

1876.—J. C. Lawrence, G. C. Beekman, Britton C. Clayton.

1877.—J. C. Lawrence, G. C. Beekman, Alexander A. Yard.

1878.—J. C. Lawrence, P. M., Aaron R. Throckmorton, P. M., Amos Lippincott.

1879.—A. R. Throckmorton, James S. Yard, A. C. Hartshorne.

1880.—A. R. Throckmorton, James S. Yard, A. C. Hartshorne.

1881.—A. R. Throckmorton, Alfred Walters, Joseph H. Rosell.

1882.—A. R. Throckmorton, Charles Hartzheim, Joseph H. Rosell.

1883.—Joseph H. Rosell, William S. Throckmorton, Charles Hartzheim.

#### *Masters of Ceremonies.*

1865.—Charles Ellis and Joseph S. Conover.

1866.—George C. Beekman, Joseph T. Laird.

1867.—John Bawden, Joseph S. Conover.

1870.—Edwin F. Applegate, James H. Magee.

1871.—Charles Hartzheim, Britton C. Clayton.

1872.—Charles Hartzheim, Britton C. Clayton.

1873.—Charles Hartzheim, James B. Craig.

1874.—Charles Hartzheim, William C. Chambers.

1875.—Charles Hartzheim, William C. Chambers.

1876.—William Segoine, Jacob C. Lawrence.

1877.—James B. Craig, Charles Hartzheim.

1878.—Charles Hartzheim, John H. Williams.

1879.—Charles Hartzheim, A. M. T. Flandreau.

1880.—James S. Yard, Joseph H. Rosell.

1881.—George C. Hulett, Holmes W. Murphy, P. M.

1882.—Joel Parker, A. C. Hartshorne.

1883.—M. L. Farrington, James B. Craig.

#### *Stewards.*

1862.—John Bawden, James T. Burtis.

1864.—Charles S. Worts, Alfred Walters.

1865.—William D. Davis, Henry S. Little.

1866.—William D. Davis, Henry S. Little.

1867.—William D. Davis, Henry S. Little.

1868.—William D. Davis, Henry S. Little.

1869.—Joel Parker, Henry S. Little.

1872.—A. R. Throckmorton, James S. Yard.

1873.—John Dorrance, James S. Yard.

1874.—John Dorrance, James S. Yard.

1875.—Joel Parker, Joseph D. Bedle.

1876.—Joel Parker, Joseph D. Bedle.

1877.—Joel Parker, Joseph D. Bedle.

1878.—Joseph H. Rosell, Joseph W. Hulse.

1879.—Joseph H. Rosell, John Bawden.

1880.—Henry W. Long, John Bawden.

1881.—James S. Yard, P. M., A. R. Throckmorton, P. M.

1882.—James S. Yard, A. R. Throckmorton.

1883.—Holmes W. Murphy, E. H. Duncan.

MONMOUTH LODGE No. 20, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 8, 1843, by Marshall C. Holmes, W. W. Grand Master of the State, upon petition of James B. Taylor, Henry Bennett, Alfred Bergen, John L. Doty, Joel Parker and Bernard Conolly; was duly organized by the election of James B. Taylor, Noble Grand; Joel Parker, Vice-Grand; Henry Bennett, Secretary; and Alfred Bergen, Treasurer. The lodge meetings were held in the room over the book-store of J. G. Cooper & Son. At the end of three years the membership had become so large that a more spacious room was needed. To obtain suitable accommodations much difficulty was experienced, but when Mr. Amos Haviland was about commencing the erection of a building on South Street, to be used as a carriage repository, a committee of the lodge was appointed to confer with him, and the result of their conference was that Mr. Haviland agreed to fit up the





second story of the new building for a lodge-room, and to lease it to the lodge for a term of years. Having made this arrangement, the lodge did not re-rent the room previously occupied, and they were consequently notified to vacate, which they did, and were then without a place for the holding of their meetings. "But our kind and generous-hearted brother, Joel Parker, threw open the doors of his private dwelling and invited this homeless band of brothers to enter and hold their meetings there until such time as the new hall could be completed. They gratefully accepted the invitation, and moved in and remained there until the 4th day of July, 1846, at which time the new hall was dedicated."<sup>1</sup> This hall was occupied by the lodge for eight years, when they removed to a hall in Major Henry Bennett's building, over the store of G. W. Shinn & Co., on Main Street. Thence, after a number of years, they removed to the hall now occupied by the Grand Army post, in Burtis' building, corner of Main and Court Streets, and thence to the present quarters of the lodge, in the hall over the store of J. B. Haviland, on Main, west of Court Street.

The present (1884) officers of the lodge are: E. Emrich, N. G.; Charles Eldridge, V. G.; John Stricker, Secretary; William McDermott, Treasurer; Peter V. Thompson, John B. Gordon and David S. Crater, Trustees.

CAPTAIN J. W. CONOVER POST, No. 63, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, OF NEW JERSEY, was mustered in January 16, 1882, with twenty-six charter members, viz.:

P. C.—John W. Hulse, Thirty-eighth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

S. V. C.—James Christie, Thirty-fifth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

J. V. C.—W. W. Cannon, One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Regiment Ohio Volunteers.

Chaplain.—Joseph Rue, Twenty-eighth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Surgeon.—C. H. Snedeker, Sixth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Quartermaster.—C. A. Clark, Seventeenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers.

O. Day.—C. Hartzheim, Seventh Regiment New York Volunteers.

O. G.—W. Burrell, Twenty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Adjutant.—C. H. Bunting, Fourteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade C. Patterson, Fourteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade Joseph Evans, Thirteenth Regiment New York Artillery.

Comrade Nelson Cooper, Fourteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade James H. King, Thirty-eighth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade George G. Sparks, Forty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteers.

Comrade John F. Thompson, Twenty-ninth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade James Vannote, Thirty-fifth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade Stephen Lane, Fifth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade James Mathews, Ninth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade Elias Applegate, Thirty-fifth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade William J. Cottrell, Twenty-ninth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade D. S. Oliphant, Thirty-fifth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade Jacob M. Douglass, Thirteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade James Hogan, Thirty-fifth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade C. Marellus, Eleventh Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade R. H. Wagner, Fourteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Comrade C. A. Brower, Fourteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

During the year there were mustered in nine recruits, making a total number of comrades in good standing, December 28, 1882, thirty-five. During the year 1883 twenty-three recruits were mustered, making a membership, on December 26, 1883, of fifty-eight comrades.

The officers for 1883 were: P. C., Colonel E. F. Applegate; S. V. C., C. Brower; J. V. C., C. H. Snedeker; Chaplain, Jacob M. Douglass; Surgeon, C. Patterson; Quartermaster, C. A. Clark; O. Day, C. Hartzheim; O. G., G. G. Sparks; Adjutant, W. W. Cannon.

The number of recruits mustered during the year 1884 (to September 24th) was six comrades, and three were dropped, making the total number of comrades on September 24th, in good standing, sixty-one.

<sup>1</sup>Quotation from an address by David S. Crater, Esq., secretary at the twenty-eighth anniversary of the Lodge, June 8, 1871.



The officers for 1884 were: P. C., Colonel E. F. Applegate; S. V. C., J. V. Muldoon; J. V. C., C. H. Snedeker; Chaplain, J. M. Douglass; Surgeon, William Burrell; O. Day, G. G. Sparks; Quartermaster, C. A. Clark; O. G., John Thompson; Adjutant, Joseph Brown.

TENNENT LODGE, No. 69, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS, was instituted in Freehold, March 7, 1872, with the following-named charter members: George C. Hulett, Robert Lippincott, John W. Hulse, Lewis Hirschy, Frank McConnell, John H. Heath, James B. Craig, John C. Van Cleaf, James H. Voorhees, Henry Bennett, C. M. Barkalow and Charles Ellis. The first officers were: C. C., Charles Ellis; V. C., George C. Hulett; Prelate, Henry Bennett; M. of E., Robert Lippincott; M. of F., John C. Van Cleaf; K. of R. and S., John C. Van Cleaf; M. at A., John W. Hulse; I. Guard, Frank McConnell; O. Guard, Cornelius M. Barkalow.

The lodge, now numbering sixty members, including the three ranks, meets at its hall over the store of J. B. Haviland, in the brick block on Main Street above Court. The present (1884) officers of the lodge are: C. C., Jesse C. Erickson; V. C., Mulford Arose; Prelate, A. H. Schanck; M. of E. and C., William McDermott, Sr.; M. of F., Bartley Morris; K. of R. and S., Joseph Brown; M. at A., Fred. Hirschy; I. Guard, Harry Davis; O. Guard, C. M. Barkalow; P. C., Charles Rogers.

THE FREEHOLD LYCEUM LIBRARY AND FREE READING-ROOM was established through the efforts and energy of a number of earnest men, citizens of Freehold, among whom were included Major James S. Yard, Theodore W. Morris, Colonel E. F. Applegate, Dr. C. E. Hall, George F. Ward, M. L. Farrington, J. B. Conover, J. P. Walker and others.

The first public meeting of citizens for the purpose of establishing the free reading-room was held November 3, 1883, at which time an organization was effected. The first meeting of the first board of directors, as below, was held Tuesday evening, November 21, 1883,—M. J. Farrington, president; J. P. Walker, vice-president; J. B. Conover, secretary; C. P. Emmons, treasurer; W. H. Ingling, W. B.

Duryee, C. H. Butcher, L. F. S. Schanck, W. S. Throckmorton.

The number of members enrolled the first year was one hundred and thirty-six; number enrolled the second year, seventy-seven; the number of volumes now upon the shelves, five hundred and fourteen.

Among the donors to whom the Lyceum owes its rapid growth and representative character are Mrs. Louisa L. Vought, Mrs. Eleanor Vredenburg (now deceased), Hon. Joel Parker, T. W. Ryall, William H. Vredenburg, G. S. Conover, Dr. J. P. Geran and Mrs. M. A. Rightmire. Messrs J. A. Geissenhainer, Peter Jackson, Hon. Joel Parker, Rev. I. P. Brokaw have contributed to the treasury. The present board of directors are J. B. Conover, president; Frederick Parker, treasurer; W. E. Truex, secretary; Dr. Charles E. Hall, J. B. Haviland, Gilbert Combs, C. H. Lewis, George B. Conover, Maxey Applegate.

THE MONMOUTH BATTLE MONUMENT recently erected to commemorate the momentous event indicated by its name, stands on Monument Park, which is a beautiful plat of elevated ground, lying a short distance northwest of the court-house, on Court street, and on the northwest line of the corporation.

There have been within the last fifty years several unsuccessful attempts to raise money to erect a monument on the battle-field of Monmouth. The effort to that end which proved a success originated in 1877. The originator of this movement was Joel Parker, a native of Monmouth County, who had twice been elected Governor of the State of New Jersey, and who had been a resident of the town of Freehold since 1843. He was born near the battle-ground; some of his ancestors were in the battle and had also suffered in their property from the depredations of the British army in its march through the county.

Governor Parker was aware, as he often said, that if the centennial year passed without laying the corner-stone of the monument, no effort towards that end would ever subsequently be made. It so happened that the commencement exercises of the Freehold Institute were held







in the Presbyterian Church at Freehold on the 28th of June, 1877. Ex-Governor Parker, being present, was invited by the principal of the school to address the students and the people assembled. In the course of the Governor's remarks he referred to the fact that that day was the ninety-ninth anniversary of the battle of Monmouth, and suggested that measures be inaugurated then and there to have a monument erected on the battle-ground to commemorate the event, to be dedicated, if possible, on the centennial anniversary of the battle, June 28, 1878. And he suggested that the editors of the newspapers, the clergymen of the county, the county officers and the judges of the county courts be appointed a committee to devise a plan by which the suggestion might be carried out; and that Major James S. Yard, editor of the *Monmouth Democrat*, be appointed to notify the other members of the committee of the time and place of its meeting. At the suggestion of Rev. C. S. Hageman, ex-Governor Parker was added to the committee and ex-Governor William A. Newell, who resided in Monmouth County, was also added. The suggestions on the subject met with favor, expressed with enthusiasm by the large audience, and resolutions appointing the committee were unanimously adopted.

Subsequently a circular was issued by Major Yard, as secretary, calling a meeting of the committee for Monday, September 17th, at the court-house. On the day last named a number of the committeemen met, and organized by appointing Joel Parker chairman, and James S. Yard, secretary. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz.: "*Resolved*, That the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth should be celebrated on the 28th of June, 1878. *Resolved*, That we believe a monument worthy of the object can be erected within the time proposed by small contributions from the people of the old county of Monmouth and others interested." A committee was then appointed to nominate officers of a permanent organization.

On the 2d of October, 1877, at a public meeting assembled at the court-house, officers of the permanent organization were elected,

and a constitution and by-laws adopted. The following were the officers chosen:

President.—Hon. Joel Parker.

Secretary.—James S. Yard.

Treasurer.—Asher S. Parker, Red Bank. He did not act, and subsequently John B. Conover was chosen.

*Vice-Presidents and General Committee.*

Upper Freehold.—Hon. W. A. Newell, vice-president; Charles Bullock, Colton B. Mars.

Millstone.—Charles Allen, vice-president; David Baird, Peter Forman.

Manalapan.—John H. Laird, vice-president; Joseph Ely, Charles H. Snyder.

Freehold.—E. F. Applegate, vice-president; James T. Burtis, Gilbert Combs.

Howell.—Levi G. Irvin, vice-president; Halsted H. Wainwright, Joseph H. Donahay.

Marlborough.—John W. Herbert, vice-president; Obadiah C. Herbert, Daniel P. Vandorn.

Atlantic.—T. Forman Taylor, vice-president; John T. Haight, Thomas W. Ryall.

Holmdel.—Rev. T. S. Griffith, vice-president; Rev. William Reiley, Gilbert H. Vanmater.

Shrewsbury.—John S. Applegate, vice-president; James Broadmeadow, William H. Siekles.

Middletown.—George W. Siekles, vice-president; E. M. Hartshorne, Thomas S. Field.

Raritan.—Thomas S. R. Brown, vice-president; Alfred Walling, Jr., Thomas Burroughs.

Matawan.—William L. Terhune, vice-president; Charles W. Fountain, William Spader.

Ocean.—William H. Bennett, vice-president; Rev. J. B. Wilson, James A. Bradley.

Wall.—Dr. Robert Laird, vice-president; Hal. A. laire, Pitney Curtis.

Eatontown.—Dr. S. H. Hunt, vice-president; Samuel Griscom, Isaiah S. Lane.

On taking the chair as president of the Monmouth Battle Monument Association, which was then organized, Governor Parker made an address in which he pledged himself to use his utmost efforts to bring the undertaking to a successful conclusion, a pledge which he faithfully kept. Hon. Edward W. Seudder, a judge of the Supreme Court, then holding the Monmouth Circuit, who was present, addressed the association. Numerous meetings of the association were held in the fall of 1877, the winter of 1877-78 and the spring of 1878. It soon became manifest that sufficient funds could not be obtained to erect a monument (such as should mark a battle-field of the Revolutionary War) before the 28th of June, 1878, and it was de-



terminated to do no more on that day than to lay the corner-stone in connection with a grand parade and celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the battle. In the mean time a committee was appointed to report a site for the monument. After going over the ground on which the battle was fought, the committee reported in favor of that which Mrs. Mary A. Schanck offered to donate to the association, and the report was unanimously adopted by the association. The site selected is where the Americans under Colonel Butler, as they emerged from the woods (which then extended from the northwest from Hartshorne's Pond up to near the present residence of Mrs. Schanck), fired on a detachment of the Queen's Rangers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Simcoe, who were discovered drawn up in the rear of the old courthouse, as has been more fully mentioned in the account of the battle given in a preceding chapter. Of course, it was proper to place the monument on any part of the ground where there was fighting on that day.

The gift of Mrs. Schanck and her children is a very valuable one. The ground presented by them as the site of the monument, contains three and one-quarter acres, in the shape of a triangle, with roads on the three sides. The ground is high, and lies between and about equally distant from the two railroads running to Freehold.

Early in the spring of 1878 a committee of one from each township was appointed to act in conjunction with the committee of citizens of Freehold, to make arrangements for the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the battle. The citizens of Freehold met and selected a committee of gentlemen and ladies representing each of the churches in the town. This committee proved very efficient, and arranged for and carried out successfully the best demonstration ever witnessed in New Jersey.

It became apparent that the association should be incorporated, in order legally to hold title to the land which Mrs. Schanck and her family proposed to present as a site for the monument; also, to invest funds donated. Accordingly an act was framed by ex-Governor Parker, which was passed by the Legislature, March 19, 1878. It was a general law providing for the incorpo-

ration, by filing a certificate in the clerk's office, of associations for the erection and maintenance of monuments. Among other things, it authorized such associations to receive by gift, titles to land not exceeding five acres for the purpose of erecting monuments thereon. Under this law, a certificate of incorporation was filed in the clerk's office of the county of Monmouth, on May 23, 1878, signed by a number of gentlemen from the different townships. Under this certificate, in accordance with the law, the new organization was completed on the 30th day of May, 1878, by the election of the following trustees, viz.:

*At Large.*

Theodore W. Morris, of Freehold; Edwin F. Applegate, of Freehold; James T. Burtis, of Freehold; James S. Yard, of Freehold; John B. Conover, of Freehold.

*For Townships.*

Upper Freehold, Hon. William A. Newell.  
Millstone, Charles Allen.  
Manalapan, John H. Laird.  
Howell, Levi G. Irwin.  
Atlantic, John T. Haight.  
Holmdel, Gilbert H. Vanmater.  
Wall, Dr. Robert Laird.  
Eatontown, Dr. Sylvester H. Hunt.  
Ocean, Hon. John A. Morford.  
Shrewsbury, John S. Applegate.  
Raritan, Thomas Barrows.  
Marlboro', Daniel P. Vandorn.  
Middletown, Thomas B. Field.  
Matawan, William L. Terhune.  
Freehold, Hon. Joel Parker.

The following officers were elected:

President, Joel Parker.  
Vice-Presidents, William A. Newell, Dr. Robert Laird, John S. Applegate.  
Executive and Finance Committee, James S. Yard, James T. Burtis, Theodore W. Morris, John H. Laird, Hal Allaire.  
Secretary, James S. Yard.  
Treasurer, John B. Conover. ✓

The association did not meet again until February 22, 1879, the business attending the preparation for the celebration on the 28th June, 1878, having previously been entrusted to the executive committee, in conjunction with other committees chosen by the citizens. On May 30, 1878, provision was made by this committee for procuring the corner-stone and placing it in proper position on June 28th.





On June 3d, the executive committee met and authorized the manufacture of five thousand medals of white metal and one hundred of bronze to be sold on the day of the anniversary. Many of these were sold on that day.

At the time the corner-stone was laid the subscriptions which had been received were much less than had been anticipated. In the beginning, the purpose of those who were active in the matter was to raise, if possible, ten thousand dollars; but the amount collected up to the time the corner-stone was laid was less than three thousand dollars. This was discouraging; but the gentlemen who had embarked in the enterprise knew no such word as fail, and amid discouraging circumstances, in this respect, they laid the corner-stone, confident that they could successfully appeal to the honor of old Monmouth not to let the project fail, after going so far as to commence the work with imposing ceremonies.

Following is given an account of the ceremonies at the laying of the corner-stone, as written out by Eli Crozier, of Wilmington, Del., a patriotic citizen who attended all the centennial celebrations in the country, and who published a pamphlet giving an account of the proceedings at each:

"The little town of Freehold, made memorable by the Revolutionary battle fought here a hundred years ago, presented a gala appearance to-day. It was robed in all the paraphernalia of patriotism. On every side, whichever way you might turn, there were to be seen the stars and stripes floating above house-top, store and factory, while across the streets was stretched the noble banner, dearer than ever to every American heart. There was manifested a generous spirit of rivalry among the residents; each did his best in honor of the occasion, and the result was such a display that did credit to their hearts and hands. The humblest citizen joined with his wealthier neighbor in contributing to the imposing demonstration. Very seldom has there been witnessed anywhere such a scene of beauty in the way of decorations; because so general. It is safe to say that not a structure, no matter of what character, was without some insignia of a patriotic character. The portrait of the great commander-in-chief of the army, the immortal Washington, occupied a prominent position upon the fronts of numerous houses, while the national colors were liberally displayed for festooning. Shields and stars, and the numerals 1778 and 1878 were to be seen at every turn. Long before entering this beautifully-

located town, the residences upon the roads, all the way from Monmouth Junction, a distance of several miles to the depot, were decked gayly, and it seemed as though the owners and occupants had given themselves up entirely to the celebration. There was no half-heartedness in this grand—nay, more—imposing display. All entered into it with their whole soul, as though determined to make the day one that should not be forgotten. That they succeeded, needed no more than a walk through the streets of Freehold. Every one was in good humor, and bent upon making the most of the occasion. All the leading thoroughfares were thronged, and every train, of which there were many, arrived crowded with people, who swelled the happy sight-seers to over twenty thousand. Every town in the commonwealth of New Jersey, within a radius of fifty miles, sent its quota, and not a few were contributed by the goodly City of Brotherly Love and the gallant little State of Delaware, among whom was a representative of 'Mad Anthony Wayne,' who presided at one of the stands. At an early hour the troops composing the Second Brigade, N. J. N. G., began to arrive, and by eleven o'clock, the time for the formation of the procession, all the militia ordered out by Governor McClellan were on the ground. These came from far and near, and, like everything else about the celebration, evinced a promptitude that was more than once the subject of remark. Not alone by rail was the great crowd made up; every sort of conveyance, from the humble wagon of the farmer to the stylish turnout of the man of ease, were employed, while hundreds tramped long distances to share in the festivities. Old and young, rich and poor alike, took part in the joyous celebration of an event that will remain riveted upon the minds of all who trod the streets of the county-seat of Monmouth. The court-house probably was the gayest decorated structure of the town, for from turret to foundation there was an almost unending display of flags, streamers, shields and mottoes. The residences of ex-Governor Parker and Judge Shinn were among the most beautifully adorned residences. With a display that was so general, and an enthusiasm so unbounded, it would be almost impossible to particularize, and the attempt, if such were made, would be to make distinctions which might be considered invidious. Freehold did her best; her citizens did nobly; and wherever a centennial celebration may be held, she can feel assured that none will excel her in honoring the men and the principles they espoused, for the priceless heritage they contended for for their children, the fruits of which are now being enjoyed. At an early hour in the morning, as early as six o'clock, the celebration commenced by the ringing of all the bells in the town. The people were astir in expectation of the initial portion of the well arranged and splendidly executed details of the very fine programme. They desired to miss nothing, and so were ready at the earliest moment to participate in the festivities of the day. At



half-past six o'clock a salute of thirteen guns was fired by the battery stationed on Briar Hill, a short distance out of town, under the command of Captain Charles F. Snowden and Lieutenant Hillman, of the quartermaster-general's corps.

"Long before the hour fixed for the formation of the procession, before even the arrival of a single organization upon the ground, the streets through which it was to pass were thronged, and this was particularly the case with such thoroughfares as Yard Avenue and Main Street. Assistant marshals rode through the town, giving warning to the occupants of vehicles not to obstruct the highways, and in this way the route was kept perfectly clear of anything that might impede the progress of those who were to make up the great patriotic pageant. At twelve o'clock the procession moved over the prescribed route, in the following order: Grand Marshal, Major James S. Yard and aids; Committee of the Day, Hon. G. W. Shinn, Hon. A. R. Throckmorton, Colonel E. F. Applegate; aids: C. A. Bennett, Jr., and Charles Throckmorton. Then came the Second Brigade, National Guards of New Jersey, commanded by Major-General William J. Sewell and staff, and composed as follows: Peterman's Band, of Trenton; Seventh Regiment, Colonel A. Wangel, commanding, numbering three hundred men; Sixth Regiment, preceded by the Sixth Regiment band and drum corps, commanded by General E. Burd Grubb, with four hundred and fifty-six men in line; Third Regiment, Colonel W. A. Morrell commanding, numbering four hundred and thirty men, accompanied by the Elizabeth Veteran Zouaves. An artillery company, provided with two fine Gatling guns, were the next in line; they numbered sixty men, commanded by General J. Madison Drake, and were accompanied by Drake's Band. The corps was composed entirely of soldiers who served throughout the War of the Rebellion, in defense of their country, and carried with them four tattered flags, among which was one belonging to Phil. Kearney's division, and another captured by General Drake in Virginia, on the 24th of May, 1861, when the army crossed the Long Bridge. Next came Damascus Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar, Charles E. Ingalls, Eminent Commander, numbering one hundred and ten knights, in full Templar uniform, accompanied by a fine band of music. Following were Olive Branch, St. John's and Wall Lodges, and the officers and members of the R. W. Grand Lodge, A. F. A. M., of the jurisdiction of New Jersey. Then came a long line of carriages, containing many prominent citizens, followed by Company A, Washington Centennial Guards, of Princeton, in the uniform worn in the days of the Revolution. Next in line were the Joel Parker Association, of Newark, named in honor of the distinguished ex-Governor, all clad in dark clothing and wearing white high felt hats, and numbering one hundred men. They were preceded by a fine band of music and presented a

very creditable appearance. The rear of the line was brought up by the Delaware Hose Company, of Bordentown, with their gayly-decked apparatus, dragged by thirty men in white shirts and wearing black helmet hats. The procession, after moving over the prescribed route, reached the Monument Park, where was erected a stand, upon which the ceremonies were to take place a little after one o'clock.

"Here, upon the site for the erection of the monument to commemorate the battle of Monmouth, was a capacious stand, through the centre of which projected the base and the derrick, from which hung the large, square block of granite which was to be the corner-stone. An awning shielded those who were to occupy the platform from the burning rays of the sun. The military, as they reached the monument, or rather where it is to be constructed, filed to the left and entered the capacious and well-shaded grounds of Mrs. Schanck, the donor of the park, where they rested from the fatigues of their march. The Knights opened order and the Masonic brethren marched through in inverse order and ascended the stand, when the officers assumed their appropriate stations: the R. W. Grand Master in the east, the R. W. Senior Grand Warden in the west, and the R. W. Junior Grand Warden in the South. On the right and left of the Grand Master were the Senior and Junior Deacons. The officers and members of the commandery also occupied places upon the platform, forming in a hollow square. As soon as everything was in order, Mr. Theodore W. Morris, in a few well-chosen remarks, presented the deed of the property upon which this monument is to be erected, to Hon. Joel Parker, president of the Monument Association. Governor Parker, in accepting the document of conveyance, said: 'On behalf of the Monument Association, I accept this agreement for transfer of this valuable property, to be used forever as a site for a monument to commemorate the battle of Monmouth. No more beautiful location and none more appropriate could have been selected. I know the history of the family you represent on this occasion. Many of them were in the American army during the War of the Revolution, and some were at the battle of Monmouth. You truly say that no stain of dishonor rests upon the memory of any of them. Convey to Mrs. Schanck and the others for whom you speak the thanks of the Monument Association for their most liberal gift. It will be our aim speedily to rear upon this spot a monument worthy of the great event. This we can do, if, in addition to what has already been contributed, the people continue to manifest the same liberality that has characterized them for the last few days.'"

[Here follows the account of the laying of the stone according to Masonic form and usage.] "The ceremonies were concluded by the Grand Marshal making proclamation that the corner-stone had been laid this day by the R. W. Grand Master of Masons of New







Jersey, in ample form. The Masonic brethren then left the stand, and Hon. Joel Parker called the assemblage to order.

"The following-named gentlemen were announced as the officers of the meeting: Vice-Presidents, Dr. Robert Laird, Thomas Burrowes, John H. Laird, Hon. Chilion Robbins, R. W. Dayton, G. H. Van Mater, John A. Morford; Secretaries, John B. Conover, John J. Ely. A fervent prayer was made by Rev. Frank Chandler, and, after music by an excellent band, ex-Governor Parker addressed the people as follows:

"**FELLOW-CITIZENS:**—We are assembled on a battle-field of the American Revolution. Here, one hundred years ago, our forefathers struck a blow for liberty. Near the spot where we now stand, on that quiet Sabbath morning in June, the first gun of the battle of Monmouth was fired and the first blood shed. Here the Continental troops emerged from the woods, and yonder [pointing to an eminence where the other meeting was in progress] the Queen's Rangers received the first volley, fled through the village and joined the main army of the British, then slowly retiring over the plain beyond. The American advance, under Lee, quickly crossed the ravine which forms the eastern boundary of this farm, descended into the plain and engaged the British rear. . . . On this beautiful and appropriate site the generous gift of a public-spirited lady, whose paternal as well as maternal ancestors were in the battle, in the presence of this vast multitude, with most solemn and fitting ceremonies, we have laid the corner-stone of a monument. The work is auspiciously begun and the monument will be built. The honor of the county of Monmouth is pledged to its completion. When all here assembled shall have passed from earth the granite shaft to rise on this spot will still point towards heaven, and in after centuries will speak to the generations who follow us of the heroic deeds and virtues of those noble men who, on these fields one hundred years ago, achieved a victory which helped to make our country free."

"A stand one hundred yards or more away was erected in what is termed Throckmorton's Field, which was gaily decorated, and upon which was stationed a band of music. Here ex-Governor William A. Newell presided, assisted by the following officers: Vice-Presidents, John S. Applegate, Dr. S. H. Hunt, Collen B. Miers, O. C. Herbert, Levi G. Irwin, Thomas S. Field, D. R. Conover, David Baird; Secretaries, J. Clarence Conover, Hon. John J. Wheeler. After a prayer by Rev. Thomas H. Cullen, and an eloquent address by Governor Newell, a fine selection of music was rendered by the band, and Colonel Henry B. Carrington, United States army, delivered a historical sketch of the battle of Monmouth.

"At the conclusion of the musical and literary exercises the troops were re-formed and made a short parade, passing the residence of ex-Governor Parker,

where they were reviewed by Governor George B. McClellan, who uncovered as every regiment came in view. This concluded the festivities of the day, which were brilliant and successful, and were creditable in the highest degree to all concerned. Throughout the day the entire military and the guests of the occasion were furnished with a bounteous repast at Shinn's Hall, as many as nine hundred sitting down to the tables at one time.<sup>1</sup> There was full and plenty, and none were permitted to leave dissatisfied. Such hospitality has rarely been equaled, and the ladies, of whom there were many, were unremitting in their attentions in waiting upon the men who had come to Freehold to help swell the throng, and to add to the interest of the great centennial celebration of the battle of Monmouth, and here before closing let me say that the ex-Governors of New Jersey nobly responded to the invitation to grace the occasion by their presence, four—Price, Parker, Newell and Bedle—being prominent in all that was transpiring, and exhibiting quite as much enthusiasm as any of the good people of this, one of the original thirteen States."

The first meeting of the Monument Association after the centennial celebration, was on the 22d of February, 1879. The president stated the object of the meeting, and said, in addressing the association, "The honor of the county of Monmouth is now pledged to the completion of the monument, the corner stone of which we have laid." The treasurer, Mr. John B. Conover, reported the total receipts for monument fund, up to that time, to be as follows, viz.: Receipts from all sources, \$3957.03; disbursements, including expense at celebration, \$332.25; in treasury 22d of February, 1879, \$3624.78.

This statement was certainly discouraging; but the few stout hearts foremost in the undertaking were not appalled, but in strong faith redoubled their efforts. Plans for monuments were sought, to cost from five to ten thousand dollars, and several plans were submitted:

At the meeting of June 28, 1879, the receipts had increased over twelve hundred dollars. The Rev. Thaddeus Wilson, of Shrewsbury, addressed the association at that meeting. The

<sup>1</sup> It was estimated that fully three thousand persons, including the soldiers, were provided for at the public tables. Every township in the county contributed double the quantity of provisions asked for. The arrangements, which were almost perfect, included even the furnishing of ice-water in profusion at many different points for the refreshment of the military and visitors.



trustees and officers chosen were those who had previously been elected. The association was now in condition to receive the deed for the site. On the day the corner-stone was laid, Mr. Theodore W. Morris, son-in-law of Mrs. Schanck, had delivered to ex-Governor Parker, president of the association, an agreement signed by that lady, in which she agreed to give the deed to the association when five thousand dollars had been subscribed and paid in towards building the monument. The deed for the site, containing over three acres, was signed and executed on the 28th day of June, 1879, by Mrs. Mary A. Schanck and her children. This was indeed a most generous gift of a valuable plat of ground. The site is pronounced by all who have seen it the very best that could have been obtained. The thanks of the association and of the people of Monmouth are due to Mrs. Schanck and her children, and especially to Mr. Morris, through whose influence chiefly this noble gift was made.

The fund continued to increase gradually but slowly. On July 10, 1880, the treasurer reported the amount received and in hand, secured by bond and mortgage and United States bonds, to be nearly seven thousand dollars. It now became apparent that the subscriptions would soon reach ten thousand dollars. Ex-Governor Parker had obtained forty one-hundred-dollar subscriptions, besides many of fifty dollars, and nearly one thousand five hundred dollars was paid through Major James S. Yard, of the *Monmouth Democrat*, and about six hundred dollars came through collections of James T. Burtis, Esq.

When it became probable that the ten thousand dollars of subscriptions aimed at would be obtained, the active promoters of the project began to think that a ten thousand dollar monument would not be of sufficient dimensions to worthily commemorate a battle so important to the State and nation as that of Monmouth; but how to add to the fund was a most difficult problem.

At a meeting held on the 21st of February, 1880, Governor Parker advocated an application to the Legislature of New Jersey for an appropriation of ten thousand dollars to duplicate the

amount of subscriptions. It must be confessed that success in that direction then seemed doubtful, but the meeting

"Resolved, That the executive committee of this Association be authorized to take such measures as to them may seem advisable to obtain from the State of New Jersey, at the present session of Legislature, pecuniary aid toward the erection of the monument to commemorate the battle of Monmouth, and that application for that purpose may be made to the Legislature in the name of the Association."

Application was made to the Legislature during the session of 1881, in conformity with the resolution above quoted, and with what success appears by a report made at a meeting of the association, held on the 2d day of April, 1881, by ex-Governor Parker. He reported, amid applause, that the Legislature had passed an act giving ten thousand dollars towards building the monument, and also stated that Senator McPherson told him he "thought the Congress of the United States would make an appropriation of ten thousand or twenty thousand dollars for the same purpose;" so that the prospect was good for over forty thousand dollars to build the monument, as a considerable amount would still be realized from private subscriptions.

It must not be supposed that the appropriation from the State was obtained without effort. It took weeks of hard work to accomplish it. The president of the association and others saw every member and explained to each every reason for the appropriation. It was fortunate that there were in the Legislature a few warm friends from the first. The Hon. George C. Beekman, a patriotic gentleman and an enthusiastic student of American history, at that time represented Monmouth County in the Senate, and gave all his energies to secure the passage of the bill, which was also warmly and earnestly advocated by the Hon. Holmes W. Murphy, of Freehold, a popular gentleman with his associates in the House of Assembly. The president of the Senate, Hon. Mr. Hobart, of Passaic County, was born in Monmouth. Senator Sewell, of Camden, and Taylor, of Mercer, were also warm advocates of the measure. Senator Beekman was selected to introduce the bill, which had been carefully prepared by ex-Governor Parker.







The day before the vote was taken in the Senate it was somewhat uncertain how it would result. All the Senators thought the object a worthy one, but some said it was introducing a precedent for appropriations, and they thought their constituents would blame them for voting the money. The reply was that all the people of the State were, or should be, interested as well as those residing in Monmouth, and the precedent involving the raising of ten thousand dollars by those interested in another battle-ground before a bill could be passed, and all the people of Monmouth asked of the rest of the State was to duplicate their subscription.

On the night before the bill was to come up in the Senate, Mr. Charles P. Smith, of Trenton (since deceased), gave a reception in honor of the newly-elected Governor Ludlow, and the newly-elected United States Senator, Sewell. To this reception the Senators and members of Assembly, as well as the judges of the Supreme Court, were invited. Ex-Governor Parker was present. It so happened that Mr. Smith had a fine painting representing Molly Pitcher at the battle of Monmouth. Of course, the ex-Governor took pains to call the attention of the legislators to that painting, and dilated considerably on the heroism of the brave woman in the battle. On the next day the vote was taken, and out of twenty Senators present, nineteen voted for the bill. On the same day the bill passed the House of Assembly, under suspension of the rules, by a two-thirds vote.

On the 2d of April, 1881, resolutions were passed in conformity with the law authorizing a deed to be made to the State for Monument Park on or before the first Monday of May, 1881, and to hand over and transfer also to the commissioner for the State eight thousand dollars in money and securities. It will be seen that the whole ten thousand dollars which had been subscribed was not to be handed over to the commissioner, but that two thousand dollars was reserved to aid in putting the park in order; but the commissioner did actually receive as much as ten thousand dollars from the Monument Association in addition to the land, for the accumulated interest and the subsequent subscriptions turned over amounted to some two

thousand dollars in addition to the eight thousand dollars.

By the act of March 14, 1881, appropriating ten thousand dollars for the erection of the monument, the work was placed under the charge of a commission instructed to select a design, contract for, erect and finish a monument in the park at Freehold, where the battle commenced, June 28, 1778. Under this act the Monument Association selected five trustees—Mr. Theodore W. Morris, Major James S. Yard, Mr. James T. Burtis, Mr. Hal Allaire and Mr. John B. Conover—to represent them in the newly-created State Commission. The State officials to represent the State on this commission were the president of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Hon. Edward J. Anderson, comptroller of the treasury, General Lewis Perrine, quartermaster-general, and General William S. Stryker, adjutant-general. On April 9, 1881, the commission was organized by electing Hon. Garret A. Hobart, president of the Senate, to be president of the commission; Hon. Harrison Van Dyne, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and Mr. Theodore W. Morris, vice-presidents; Colonel Edwin F. Applegate, secretary, and Mr. John B. Conover, treasurer. The commission, at this meeting, ordered a deed to be executed to the State of New Jersey for Monument Park. It was stated that ex-Governor Parker, having been appointed a justice of the Supreme Court of the State, was unwilling to accept election as a member of the commission, which was a body under the State law, because it seemed to be against the spirit of a statute of New Jersey which forbids a judge of the Supreme Court holding another office. It was, therefore, resolved, on motion of E. J. Anderson, "that Hon. Joel Parker be requested to be present at all future meetings of the commission, to assist by his counsel and advice." And Judge Parker was appointed to go to Washington, and, if possible, procure an appropriation from Congress.

On the 6th of December, 1881, Senator McPherson introduced in the Senate of the United States "A bill in regard to a monumental column to commemorate the battle of Monmouth,"—appropriating twenty thousand



dollars towards the erection of the column,—which bill was duly passed.

It was fortunate that John R. McPherson and William J. Sewell were in the United States Senate when the measure was pending. They were on opposite sides in politics, and as each took a warm interest in the success of the measure, a powerful influence was brought to bear on both sides of the chamber in favor of the bill. Senator Sewell was a member of the Military Committee, to which the bill was referred. He had a day appointed by the full committee for a hearing on the bill, and telegraphed to Judge Parker notifying him of the time. This was quite unusual, as such matters are usually referred to a sub-committee. It was through Senator Sewell's influence that this was done. Judge Parker went to Washington before the committee, and at their request addressed them for about an hour; the result was that the bill was unanimously reported. The committee was composed of the following Senators, all of whom were present,—Logan (chairman), Sewell, Wade Hampton, Hawley, Benjamin Harrison, Grover, of Oregon, Cockrell, of Missouri, and one of the Texas Senators. It was understood that before the committee met, several of the Western Senators were not favorable to the bill. They did not know much about the battle itself, nor did they approve of voluntary organizations to erect monuments, because, after the originators of the project are dead, others suffer them to go into decay; but when they understood that the State had taken a deed for the site and aided in building the structure, they were satisfied the monument and grounds would be taken care of. The Senators on the committee who warmly favored the bill and aided General Sewell materially were Benjamin Harrison, of Indiana, Hawley, of Connecticut, who had met Judge Parker in Philadelphia in Centennial times, and Wade Hampton of South Carolina, whose grandfather was in the battle of Monmouth. Senator Sewell was requested to report the bill, which he did, and in a few weeks the bill was reached in its turn. Senator McPherson made a carefully-prepared and eloquent speech in advocacy of the measure, and it passed the Senate without a dissenting vote.

The bill then went to the House of Representatives. In that House there was greater difficulty to secure its passage, not because there was any actual opposition, but because of the number of bills ahead of it. Judge Parker again went to Washington, determined to pass it through the House, if possible, before his return. He did not exactly like the Military Committee of the House, for it was large and unwieldy. He had the bill referred to the Library Committee. This is a joint committee consisting of three Senators and three Representatives. It has a supervision not only over the library of Congress, but also over works of art, and inasmuch as it was contemplated to have bronze representations of scenes in the battle on the monument, the bill was referred to this small committee. The Library Committee at that time was composed of Senators Sherman, of Ohio, Hoar, of Massachusetts, and Daniel Voorhees, of Indiana, all of whom heartily approved the bill,—Voorhees, the son of a Jerseyman, who went West many years since from the county of Somerset. The active committeeman of the House was Judge Geddes, of Ohio. He was instructed to report the bill, which was done, and the report printed. Now the hard work began. There were between two and three thousand bills and joint resolutions pending ahead of this bill. If it could be got on the Speaker's table, it could be called up out of order, if no objection was made; but if a single member of the House objected, it could not be taken up. There were two or three members of the House called "objectors." They were men never, up to that time, known to let an appropriation bill be taken up out of order, without sending it back by objection. Judge Parker knew these men personally and sought them out, and he succeeded in inducing them just this once to promise not to object to the bill, and one afternoon, just as the House was about adjourning, Miles Ross, the Representative from the Monmouth District, called up the bill, and in two minutes it passed unanimously without a call of the roll. All the members from New Jersey aided in the passage of the measure. Besides Ross, there were Robeson, Brewer, Jones, Hardenburgh, Harris and Hill.



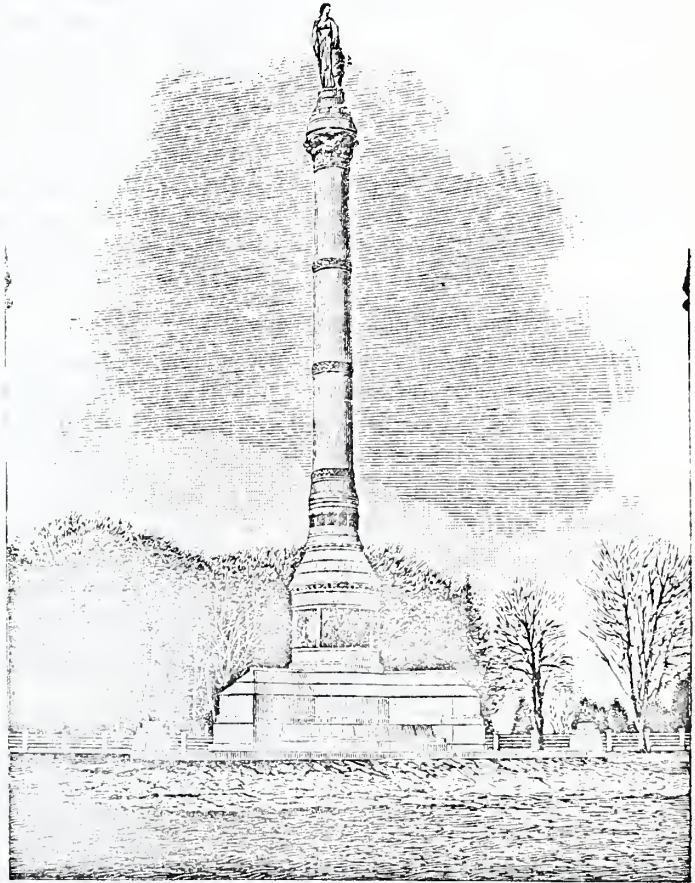




Judge Parker had made arrangements through Secretary Frelinghuysen to have an interview with the President, and had secured his promise to approve the bill, which was done as soon as it reached the executive. Thus the fund had increased from less than three thousand dollars, when the corner-stone was laid, in four years, to over forty thousand dollars.

On the 16th of October, 1882, a committee on design, consisting of Mr. Theodore W. Morris, Hon. Edward J. Anderson, General Lewis Perrine, General William S. Stryker and Mr. Hal Allaire, invited the submission of designs and specifications for the battle monument, and on March 2, 1883, the design executed by Emelin T. Littell and Douglass Smythe, architects, and J. E. Kelly, sculptor, and exhibited by Maurice J. Power, of New York City, was accepted, and a contract was awarded Mr. Power, of the National Fine Art Foundry, for its erection for the sum of thirty-six thousand dollars. On May 9, 1883, the services of Mr. Edward E. Raht, architect, were secured to superintend the construction of the monument. Hon. Garrett A. Hobart, president of the Senate, was elected president of the commission, and Hon. John T. Dunn, speaker of the House of Assembly, and Mr. Theodore W. Morris, vice-presidents for the year 1882. The officers of the commission for 1883 were Mr. Theodore W. Morris, president, and Hon. John J. Gardner, president of the Senate, and Hon. Thomas O'Connor, speaker of the House of Assembly, vice-presidents. In 1884, Mr. Morris was re-elected president of the commission with Hon. Benjamin A. Vail, president of the Senate, and Hon. Alfred B. Stoney, speaker of the House of Assembly, vice-presidents. The other officers of the commission continue at this date (November, 1884) the same as first elected, in 1881. Following is a description of the battle monument, as it now stands.

The base of the monument is in the form of an equilateral triangle with cannon at each angle. Three spurs of granite form the base of the shaft, surmounted at the point of contact by a large drum-shaped block, on which five bronze reliefs, illustrative of the battle, will be placed. Above the tablets and around the shaft are the coats of arms, in bronze, of the thirteen original States, festooned with laurel leaves. Rising above this is the shaft proper, consisting of three sections, each joined by rings of bay leaves. The shaft is surmounted by a composite capital, on which is a statue of Columbia Triumphant. The monument



MONMOUTH BATTLE MONUMENT, ERECTED IN 1884.

is constructed of New England granite, fine-axed, and is about ninety-four feet high. The tablets, five feet high and six feet wide, merit special mention. The models of them were designed by Mr. J. E. Kelly, of New York City, and the bas-reliefs were cast at the National Fine Art Foundry. They represent, with graphic exactness, five scenes in the Monmouth battle, viz.:

1. *Ramsey Defending his Guns.*—This represents Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel Ramsey, of Maryland, in the closing effort to hold his position until the main army could be rallied. General Washington had told him he depended on his exertions, and he





had promised to check the enemy. He tried with his gallant regiment to defend the guns of Lieutenant-Colonel Oswald, until, having been dismounted, he was overwhelmed by the superior numbers of the British dragoons. In the foreground he is represented with historical accuracy in a hand-to-hand conflict with a detachment of the Seventeenth British Light Dragoons. Colonel Ramsey's portrait is from a miniature and silhouette, both taken from life and furnished by his family. His sword is modeled from the short-bladed weapon which he actually carried that day, and which is still preserved. The uniform, horse equipments and all the outfittings of the dragoons are taken from the official record of the battalion. So particular has the artist been that the "death-head" may be seen on the hat of the trooper of the Seventeenth Dragoons,—the organization allowed to wear the same by the order of the King, with the motto "victory or death." In the background Oswald is directing his men in their attempt to carry off his guns. It will be remembered that Ramsey, very badly wounded in this personal combat, was taken prisoner by the British. Sir Henry Clinton, in soldierly admiration of so brave a man, ordered his release on parole.

2. *Washington Rallying the Troops.*—The commander-in-chief is here depicted riding down the American line at headlong speed, and rallying the troops after General Lee's unaccountable retreat. He is placing the regiments of Stewart, Ramsey and Livingston in position to check the advance of the British. General Washington's head and figure are modeled from Houdin's life-cast, now in possession of Mr. Power. The model is worked on a scale and is entirely accurate, in all its proportions, from Houdin's measurements. The style of the uniform and horse equipments of the chieftain are all from authentic sources.

3. *Molly Pitcher.*—The head and figure of the heroine of Monmouth is an ideal woman of great muscular power. Her dead husband is at her feet, and General Knox is seen in the background directing his artillery. A wounded soldier uses his right hand, instead of the left, in thumbing the vent. This, it is readily seen, improves the composition of the picture. The old Tennent Church, still standing as a memorial of the battle, is seen on the extreme left of the relief.

4. *Council of War at Hopewell.*—This tablet represents Generals Washington, Lee, Greene, Stirling, Lafayette, Steuben, Knox, Poor, Wayne, Woodford, Patterson, Scott and Duportail as they appeared in the important council of war held at Hopewell, N. J., June 24, 1778. General Washington is listening attentively as General Lafayette, standing by the table, is urging upon the council to decide on making a strong demonstration against the British column, even if it should bring on a battle. The position and general expression of other officers clearly indicate their opinion of Lafayette's appeal.

General Lee, who preferred to let the British force parade unmolested across the State, looks indignant that his military experience and judgment does not entirely control the board. It is also easy to see that the foreign officers, Steuben and Duportail, want to make a strong attack, and not simply to feel the enemy. General Patterson agrees with them, and so does the true-hearted Greene. General Wayne, always ready for fight, can hardly wait until Lafayette has finished, that he may speak a few words of ardent patriotism. Colonel Scummell, Washington's adjutant-general, who afterward gave his life for liberty on Yorktown's ramparts, is here engaged in noting the opinions of the general officers for the guidance of his chief.

5. *Wayne's Charge.*—The other unfinished relief depicts Mad Anthony Wayne leading his troops in the final charge of the day, through a trampled cornfield and the British grenadiers falling back and trying in vain to carry away the body of their dead commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Monckton. The parsonage of Tennent Church is seen in the background.

The work of constructing the monument having been delayed from various causes, the commission was unable to arrange for its unveiling on the anniversary of the battle, and accordingly the 13th of November, 1884, was fixed upon as the day of its dedication.<sup>1</sup> Committees of arrangements were appointed on behalf of the State and of the town of Freehold, and every possible effort put forth to make the affair a grand success. The citizens of Freehold raised a very generous fund for the purpose of building triumphal arches in the streets, and defraying other expenses which would devolve upon the town, and which had not been provided for by the State. The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county made the appropriation necessary to decorate the county buildings and for the erection of a reviewing stand in front of the court-house. At last the only question which weighed heavily upon the minds of all was whether or not the weather would prove propitious. Many a weather prophet wisely shook his head and declared that the day would surely prove stormy, or cold and disagreeable. There were three heavy hoar-frosts just preceding the day,—a sure sign of

<sup>1</sup> The account which follows of the ceremonies attending the unveiling and dedication of the monument is from the *Monmouth Democrat* of November 20, 1884.





rain, as some thought,—but the day came, and these gloomy predictions “faded into thin air.” Old Phœbus rose in a cloudless sky, and as he slowly emerged from his eastern bed he was welcomed with the ringing of church-bells and with a Continental salute from twelve-pound Napoleon guns, stationed in Throckmorton’s field, just east and in full view of Monument Park. Shaking his golden locks, he encircled “Columbia Triumphant” with a radiant halo, and bathed old Monmouth’s battle-plain in one vast wave of light. The hoar-frost gleamed whitely on the sere, brown sward, fit winding-sheet for those heroic dead whose dust there mingled with the parental clay. A western breeze, which coyly played with the rich-hued autumnal leaves still lingering on the trees, was as mild and balmy as those which sweep over violet-beds in the flowery month of May.

The citizens of Freehold early bestirred themselves. They evidently felt that, next to the battle of Monmouth itself, the most important event in the history of the place was the dedication of the beautiful monument to commemorate it. Freehold in the Revolution was very different from the Freehold of to-day. Never before was the handsome town in such magnificent dress. It was “her bridal day of happiness.” Decorated in all the hues of the rainbow, she reflected the patriotism, the valor, the devotion of the heroic dead of the Revolution. The whole town was a sea of decoration, and bespoke a just feeling of pride on the part of the people that they tread ground hallowed by associations dear to every lover of political freedom. Strangers on the streets gave way to exclamations as their measure of praise at seeing the magnificent display of bunting.

Two beautiful triumphal arches spanned Main Street, one extending from Burtis’ brick building across to Taylor’s Hotel, on the opposite side, the other from Ellis’ building across the street. Both arches were after the same design, and were constructed at the expense of the citizens of Freehold. The length of these structures was thirty-eight feet and the height eighteen feet in the clear. They were constructed with artistic skill and presented a magnificent appearance. They were not, in fact, true arches, nor

intended as such, but consisted of a turret at either end of each structure and spanned by a bridge four feet in width, the centre of which was ornamented with a cupola three or four feet in height. The turrets were built up with evergreens, on the top of which, at each corner, was a flag with vertical staff, suggestive of Gothic pinnacles. The angle under the bridge was broken by large American flags, and the entire span was covered with bunting of all colors festooned and made into large fans. This constituted the ground-work of the bridge. Upon this, at intervals, were placed large shields with flags of different nations. Between the shields were the coats-of-arms of the thirteen original colonies, that of New Jersey being in the centre, above and around which were flags in vertical positions. Standing above this, in half-relief, was a Goddess of Liberty, holding in her hand a large flag. The material used was rich throughout and presented a very pretty appearance. The word “Welcome,” in large gold letters, swung under the lower arch at Ellis’, and the word “Monmouth,” made in the same manner, swung beneath the upper one at Burtis’. A flag-pole had been erected on the corner of Main and South Streets, half-way between the arches. The base of the pole was wrapped in evergreen, at the top of which was a portrait of Washington, ornamented with bunting. Over this, in gilt letters, were the dates “1778 and 1884.” From the top of the pole floated the American flag. Reaching from the top of the pole to each arch were suspended the naval flags of various nations, making the whole a pleasing, ornate design.

The interior of Shinn’s Hall presented a truly magnificent appearance. The decorator’s art had transformed it into palatial beauty, suggestive of the banquet halls of baronial times. The front of the hall, from which the staging had been removed, was richly tapestried with elegant garnet satin curtains, suspended from the ceiling in graceful folds. Upon this was an escutcheon bearing the coat of arms of New Jersey. The side-walls all around the ceiling, for a depth of three feet, were festooned with silk plush, embroidered in gold tinsel. Below this, on both sides and ends, were hung shields,



bearing flags of all nations. Between the shields were hung bannerets in white, yellow, green, blue and garnet. These were embroidered with gold tinsel and edged with gold fringe, each bearing in the centre a coat of arms of a foreign nation.

The speakers' pavilion on the park grounds was richly ornamented. Between the posts, at the front and sides, were curtains of American flags. Below this, on the railing, all about the stand, was a ground-work of brocaded silk; over this was red bunting, with gold and black silk bands festooned in graceful fans. Above the speaker, and looking out upon the audience, the open space was hung with garnet curtains, while in the centre was the same material made into a fan.

In the interior of the building the decorations were after the same pattern. Flags of various nations floated from the top. The music stand was in keeping with the pavilion and of like material. The monument itself had its bronzes veiled in garnet chintz. On the coping of each corner was a large gilt eagle surrounded by four flags of different nations. Back of the chair-stones in each of the three angles of the monument were large shields, bearing flags of different nations. The whole park, with these bright colors, presented a magnificent appearance.

Nearly all the private residences and business places of the town were decorated with flags, streamers and other patriotic devices in bunting and evergreen, and in the centre of all this was the court-house in its magnificent costume of all colors. From the top of the building floated three large flags, and small flags and shields were fastened to every pinnacle. Falling from the edge of the roof in graceful festoons were the tri-colored emblems of America. Evergreen ropes, festooned, broke the angles of the bunting festoons. Each window was curtained with flags and hung with evergreens in wreaths and stars. In the centre of the building a coat of arms of New Jersey, in oil, was placed, and around it were evergreens. The porch contained shields of the thirteen original States, with New Jersey in the centre. The porch columns were wreathed in evergreens and flags. The immense

reviewing stand, fifty-four by ninety feet, in front of the court-house, was decorated with national colors. The jailor's residence was decorated in keeping with the court-house. The Ellis building, containing the law-offices of Samuel C. Cowart, J. Clarence Conover, E. W. Arrowsmith and Charles H. Butcher and the shops and stores of Anthony Deedmeyer, Charles B. Ellis, Charles Hartzheim and A. De la Renselle were decorated after the same style as the court-house.

It is estimated that from fifteen to twenty thousand people were assembled to witness the ceremonies. The Pennsylvania Railroad and the Freehold and New York Railway each ran five special trains and five regular trains each way. The former ran eighty-five coaches and the latter about fifty coaches each way, and every coach was crowded full of people. The arrivals by the Pennsylvania were nearly eight thousand, and those by the Freehold and New York about four thousand. The people came from every portion of the county and State, and there were many representatives of adjoining States.

The arrangements for receiving invited guests were admirable. Distinguishing badges had been sent out with each invitation. White badges assembled at ex-Governor Parker's residence, where Governor Abbett and staff, the judiciary and other distinguished guests were entertained. The members of the State Legislature, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Monmouth County and other prominent officials of the county and State wore red badges, and were received at the grand jury room in the court-house. The members of the press wore blue badges, and were entertained in a suite of rooms on the second floor of Hall's brick building, corner of Main and South Streets.

Reception committees were at the various trains for the purpose of directing the guests to their proper rendezvous. The distinguished State and national officers were received at ex-Governor Parker's residence. The whole house was thrown open for the occasion. About ten o'clock the first guests began to arrive; these were soon followed by the arrival of Governor







Abbett and his staff, escorted by the Freehold Cornet Band, with the Institute Cadets as aids. Then came General Plume and staff, and soon the house was filled with distinguished guests.

The following is a list of some of those who were received and entertained at ex-Governor Parker's: Governor Leon Abbett, Private Secretary William C. Fisk, Adjutant-General William S. Stryker, Quartermaster-General Lewis Perrine, Surgeon-General Theodore Varick, Inspector-General Weston, Inspector-General Rifle Practice Bird W. Spencer, Judge Advocate-General Garret Aekerson, Assistant-Adjutant-General S. M. Dickinson, colonels and aids-de-camps, C. D. Hendrickson, E. A. Stevens, W. F. Taylor, Eckford Moore, Otto Hoppenheimer, C. W. Thomas, J. W. Romaine, Charles Agnew, Daniel J. Betchel, Chancellor Runyon, Justices Supreme Court, David A. Depue, B. Van Syckle, E. W. Scudder, Rear-Admiral United States Navy, Charles H. Boggs, Gifford Stanley Simms, Clerk Supreme Court, Franklin B. Lewis, Judge Court of Errors and Appeals, Honorable George A. Halsey, John T. Vaneleaf, Richard A. Herbert, James N. Stratton, Professor John Enright, Rev. Frank Chandler, D.D., Captain and Judge-Advocate, Franklin C. Woolman, Colonel W. A. Morrel, Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. P. Howard, Dr. S. H. Hunt, John J. Toffey, Major and Judge-Advocate, Frederick Frelinghuysen, Henry M. Herbert, James Bishop, General Gershom Mott and staff, Brevet Major-General Joseph W. Plume and staff, Major-General William J. Sewell and staff, ex-Governor Ludlow, ex-Congressmen Ross, Peddie and Kean, ex-United States Senator Cattell, Charles Parker (brother of the ex-Governor), Rev. Charles P. Glover, State Comptroller Anderson, State Senator John S. Applegate, ex-Speaker A. B. Stoney, State Senator-elect T. G. Chattle, Judge William J. Magie, Judge Brown, of New Jersey Court Errors and Appeals, Judges Black, Glasgow and Lee, of the Burlington Common Pleas, Judges Reed and Gant, of Camden Common Pleas, District Attorney Jenkins and Surrogate Brown, of Camden, Prosecutor Belmont Perry, of Gloucester County, Judge Stratton, Sinickson Chew, editor Camden *Press*, Colonel

Stratton, Mr. Sims, President Society of the Cincinnati, Judge Fitch, of the same society, United States Senator John R. MacPherson, Congressman-elect Robert S. Green, Congressman Fiedler, John Y. Foster, ex-Congressmen H. S. Harris and Amos Clark, Congressman Farrel, Judge Knapp, of New Jersey Supreme Court, Charles E. Harris.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of Monmouth County acted as a reception committee at the court-house, where a very large number of distinguished guests were entertained.

Among the members of the press who were hospitably received and entertained in the pleasant suite of rooms in the second floor of Hall's brick building, corner Main and South Streets, were gentlemen representing the following-named newspapers:—*Rahway National Democrat*, *New York Graphic*, *Matawan Journal*, *New York Evening Telegram*, *New Jersey Standard*, *Jersey City Evening Journal*, *New York Herald*, *New York Times*, *Coast Democrat*, *Shore Gazette*, *New York Evening Telegram*, *Philadelphia Record*, *Jersey City Sunday Tattler*, *New York Evening Post*, *State Gazette*, *Newark Register*, *Burlington Enterprise*, *Beverly Banner*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Camden Post*, *West Jersey Press* (Camden), *Rahway Censor*, *New Brunswick Fredonian*, *Delaware Valley Advance*, *Plainfield Times*, *Key East Key Note*, *Asbury Park Journal*, *Trenton Emporium*, *Asbury Park Shore Press*, *New York Morning Journal*, *Newark Press*, *Newark Evening News*, *New Jersey Mirror*, *Mount Holly News*.

Mr. William S. Potter, of Somerville, former owner of the farm known as the "Battle-Ground," and who took a warm interest in the erection of the monument and personally aided in securing the passage of the bill by the State Legislature making the appropriation for the monument, was among the visitors on this occasion. Another visitor worthy of note was Mr. Eli Crozier, a very old gentleman, who has attended all the centennial celebrations of battles in the United States, and has written an account of them, giving special prominence to the one in Monmouth.

There was some delay in the arrival of the railway train bringing a part of the military,



which did not reach Freehold until after eleven A. M. The procession then formed on Broad Street and marched through the principal streets. It was reviewed by Governor Abbett, who, with his staff and a host of dignitaries and distinguished visitors, occupied the reviewing stand erected by the county in front of the courthouse. After the review, Governor Abbett and staff and all the officials on the stand joined the procession as it marched up Court Street to Monument Park. The complete procession was composed as follows:

Grand Marshal, Major J. S. Yard.

Marshal's Aids:

William S. Throckmorton, J. Nelson Conover, Charles H. Butcher, Major Alexander A. Yard, Samuel R. Forman, David S. Crater, William Hartshorne, Herman Liebenthal.<sup>1</sup>

Brevet Major-General William J. Sewell, Commanding Provisional Brigade, N. G. N. J.

*Brigade Staff:*

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas S. Chambers, Assistant Adjutant-General: Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel B.

Murphy, Inspector; Lieutenant-Colonel Franklin Gauntt, Surgeon; Major William M. Palmer, Quartermaster; Major Kenneth J. Dunean, Paymaster; Major James E. Hays, Judge-Advocate.

Captain E. A. Gillett, Captain Hamilton Markley, Aides-de-Camp.

Fourth Regiment, N. G. N. J., Colonel Dudley S. Steele, Commanding.

First Regiment N. G. N. J., Colonel Edward A. Campbell, Commanding.

Seventh Regiment N. G. N. J., Colonel Richard A. Donnelly, Commanding.

Gatling Gun Company B., Captain Robert E. Eckendorff, Commanding, with two guns drawn by horses.

Third Regiment N. G. N. J., Colonel E. H. Ropes, Commanding.

The Committee of Arrangements.  
The Monument Association.  
The Monument Commission.

<sup>1</sup> Volunteer aid, representing J. B. Morris Post, G. A. R., of Long Branch.

The Senators and Representatives and Representatives-Elect of the Congress of the United States.

The Society of the Cineinnati.

The Grand Lodge of Freemasons.

Hon. Leon Abbett, Governor of New Jersey.

*Governor's Staff:*

Adjutant-General Stryker; Quartermaster-General Perrine; Surgeon-General Varick; Inspector-General Weston; Inspector-General Rifle Practice Spencer; Judge-Advocate-General Ackerson; Assistant Adjutant-General Dickinson.

Aides-de-Camp—Colonel W. E. Hoy, Colonel E. A. Stevens, Colonel Eckford Moore, Colonel J. W. Romaine, Colonel C. D. Hendrickson, Colonel E. A. Stevens, Colonel C. W. Thomas, Colonel Otto Heppenheimer.

Major-General Gershom Mott, Commandant of National Guard of New Jersey, and Staff.

Brevet Major-General Joseph W. Plume (Commanding Second Brigade) and staff.  
Ex-Governor of New Jersey.

The Judiciary of New Jersey.

The State Officers.

Members and Members-Elect of the New Jersey Legislature.

Other Distinguished Guests.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The Sheriff and County Officials.

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Freehold.

The Township Officials of other Townships.

Civic Societies.

Citizens and Strangers.

The parade presented a most brilliant and imposing appearance. The troops marched with the precision and regularity of trained veterans. As the procession passed under the triumphal arches to the sound of martial music, the assembled thousands who lined the streets, filled the reviewing stand, crowded the porticoes, windows and every available sight-seeing space in the surrounding buildings, cheered and waved their handkerchiefs. The scene was a grand one, and not soon to be forgotten.

As soon as the procession reached Monument Park the ceremonies of unveiling were opened with an invocation of the Divine blessing by Right Reverend Bishop Scarborough. Then followed the formal delivery of the monument to the Governor of New Jersey, with a presentation speech by the president of the commission, Mr. Theodore W. Morris, who, on closing his address, drew a cord which unveiled the bronzes of the monument amid a thunder of





applause from the vast throng assembled round it, while the cannon on Throckmorton's Hill boomed forth a Continental salute of thirteen guns. The presentation was responded to by Governor Abbett in an eloquent and patriotic speech, at the conclusion of which the Governor introduced the orator of the day, Ex-Governor Joel Parker, of Freehold, who then advanced and delivered an oration, which, replete with interesting historic facts, and breathing throughout a spirit of lofty patriotism, commanded the closest attention of his great audience, and was frequently and heartily applauded. When Judge Parker's oration was finished, Governor Abbett announced the conclusion of the ceremonies of the day, which were then closed by a most impressive benediction, pronounced by the Rev. George C. Maddock, and the firing of a national salute by the artillery on Throckmorton's Hill. The vast throng of people surged back to the town, where all the hotels and other places of entertainment were filled to overflowing by the hungry and thirsty thousands. The Governor and his staff, the generals and their staffs, the Monument Commission and Association, the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the many other distinguished officials and guests who were in attendance upon the ceremonies of unveiling were dined in fine style at Shinn's Hall. Hundreds of visitors dined by invitation at private residences. The troops, who had been dismissed before the close of the ceremonies at the park, had marched to the barracks, where the State of New Jersey had made provision for their entertainment. The barracks were two long, board-sided, canvas-roofed buildings, which had been temporarily erected at the expense of the State in the vacant lot just north of the Freehold and New York Railway depot. Each building was twenty-four feet wide by two hundred and forty-eight feet long, and each was capable of accommodating one thousand men. The First, Third and Fourth Regiments arrived at the barracks before the Seventh, and their appetites had been so much sharpened by their long waiting, marching and fasting, that when the Seventh arrived, the provisions were almost entirely exhausted, and the wearied men

of the latter regiment had no means of appeasing their hunger, though the want was partially supplied by the exertions of the few individuals who, of all the residents of Freehold, knew of the shortcoming. Had it been generally known, the wants of the famishing regiment would have been amply supplied. In every other particular, except that of the unfortunate mistake referred to, the ceremonies and festivities of the unveiling were carried through with complete and most gratifying success.

The day was perfect. The streets and roads were entirely free alike from mud and dust. The weather was neither hot nor cold; the atmosphere was clear and invigorating, and the breeze was no more than enough to unfold the thousand flags that floated over the park and town. Good feeling and good order prevailed. Scarcely any intoxication was to be seen, and there was not a disturbance or accident of any kind reported. No great concourse of people ever celebrated a public event with more comfort and satisfaction than did the thousands who gathered to witness the dedication of the monument of Monmouth. The number of troops present on this occasion was less than those who participated in celebrations of the Monmouth battle anniversary in previous years, but of all the ceremonies and parades which have ever been had in commemoration of the Monmouth battle, that of November 13, 1884, must ever remain the most memorable.

The first celebration of the battle of Monmouth, on the field where the conflict took place, was held on the 28th of June, 1828, it being the semi-centennial anniversary of the great event. The principal feature of that celebration was a sham fight, carried out as nearly as practicable in imitation of the battle, and on the same ground where it was fought. Neither the number of troops taking part in the celebration of 1828 nor any of the particulars of that affair (other than the facts stated above) have been ascertained. No other celebration was held on Monmouth field until Wednesday, June 28, 1854. As that event is still clearly remembered by many of the residents of Monmouth County, it is thought to be not inappro-



pritate to give the following extract from an account of it which appeared in the next issue of the *Trenton True American*.

"The celebration of the seventy-sixth anniversary of this important event in the history of our country came off on Wednesday, June 28th.

"At an early hour on Tuesday, strangers from various sections of the country began to arrive. The insufferable heat which was experienced during the day was greatly relieved by a delightful shower which occurred in the afternoon, laying the dust and reducing the thermometer many degrees. At an early hour in the afternoon an infantry company under Captain James S. Yard, editor of the *Monmouth Democrat*, and a cavalry corps, under Captain Truex, were under arms to serve as an escort to the expected visitors. Captain Yard's company carried the old muskets used by Lafayette's troops, and presented by him to the United States.

"At about seven o'clock the train came in from the east, bringing the following companies:

"The Independent Continentals, Captain Pearce, and Company C of the American Rifles, Captain Hagadorn, from New York.

"Jersey Continentals, Captain Pollard; Montgomery Guards, Captain Farrell; and Meagher Republican Guards, Captain Hopper, from Jersey City.

"Washington Volunteers, Captain Spear, and Greenville Guards, Captain Fisher, from Bergen.

"National Guards, Captain Tuthill, and Hoboken Rifles, from Hoboken.

"Lafayette Guards, Captain Halsey, from Newark.

"Two companies of the Fourteenth Regiment, under Colonel J. C. Smith, from Brooklyn.

"Kearney Guards, Captain North, from Amboy.

"The military made a most beautiful display, two superb bands of music accompanying the visitors. They marched in the village in gallant array, and encamped on a field adjacent the town. Their campfires were kept burning during the night, presenting quite an imposing appearance. A council of war was held during the night to determine upon the proceedings of the morrow.

"The Governor and the whole of his military staff, Adjutant-General Cadwalader, Quartermaster Hamilton and a number of other dignitaries, civil and military, arrived in the evening and quartered at Cox's Hotel. They were subsequently serenaded by Adkin's celebrated band.

"A number of military gentlemen and others, invited guests, were handsomely entertained at the residence of Colonel Davis during the evening. The colonel was also serenaded, and the band invited in and entertained in a sumptuous manner.

"At a meeting subsequently held, General E. R. V. Wright was selected to personate General Washington; Adjutant-General Cadwalader, of Trenton, Sir Henry Clinton; Quartermaster-General Hamilton,

General Lee; Major William Napton, Colonel Monckton; and Colonel Joseph A. Yard, General Lafayette.

"At an early hour on Wednesday morning thousands of persons from the surrounding country began to flock to the village to witness the display. About eight o'clock the military were formed into line, and about nine o'clock the extra train from Trenton arrived. Our military corps were received by the Freehold companies and escorted to the spot where the line was being formed. Shortly after, the line of march was taken up for the railroad depot, where the cars were in readiness to convey the companies to the battle-ground.

"Upon arriving at the ground, the companies selected to represent the British forces took up their position upon the old parsonage heights, those representing the Americans being posted on the low ground in front of Mr. Herbert's house, near by which the stars and stripes were unfurled, waving from the identical tree upon which they were displayed during the battle. The review of the military under Governor Price was greatly admired and from the heights presented a beautiful spectacle.

"The crowd waited long and patiently for the signal of attack, and was greatly disappointed when it was known that the fight was not to come off. Upon it being explained that several of the soldiers had been affected by sun-stroke, and it having been strongly advised by physicians who were present against permitting the exercise of the troops under the scorching rays of the sun, the dissatisfaction of the spectators was soon appeased, and all seemed to be of opinion that such a course was the most prudent one to pursue.

"The sad accident which occurred in firing a salute in honor of the arrival of the Governor and his aids upon the ground marred considerably the festivities of the day. The accident was occasioned by the person attending to the hole having incautiously allowed the air to get in while the charge was being rammed. Abraham Coles, a member of the Lafayette Guards, of Newark, had his left hand very much shattered, which rendered amputation necessary. James S. Johnson, also attached to the Guards, was badly burned about the face and arms. The unfortunate men were carried to a neighboring house, where every attention was paid them. Several members of the Continentals, who had been sun-struck, were carried to the same house. We were informed that a person attending Adkin's band was seriously affected by a stroke of the sun.

"After the troops had been reviewed, the companies on the wings were wheeled on the right and left, so as to form three sides of a hollow square. The Governor and staff advanced to the centre, when Adjutant-General Cadwalader addressed the troops in a brief but very appropriate speech. He commenced by assuring them, in the name of the commander-in-chief, of the pleasure which it afforded him to witness their soldier-like bearing, their excellent discipline, etc. He







then alluded to the occasion which had brought them together, and the happy effect of such meetings, as tending to renew and strengthen those patriotic and generous feelings which had characterized those great and good men who fought and bled at the battle of Monmouth; that, as the descendants and heirs of those great men, it was our duty to foster the feeling of affection for our common country, and to consider no sacrifice too great to preserve and defend our institutions, and to maintain forever our blessed and glorious Union, one and indivisible. In addressing the troops, the manner of the general was marked with the true characteristics of the veteran soldier.

"The graceful demeanor and excellent horsemanship of our worthy Governor was greatly admired, and formed a theme of universal expression of delight.

"Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the citizens of Freehold for the hospitable and cordial manner in which they welcomed and entertained the invited guests and strangers attracted to their beautiful town to participate in and witness the celebration.

"Colonel William Davis, president of the railroad company, aided by the agents, were unremitting in their exertions to accommodate those who were desirous of going to and from the battle-ground. The worthy colonel was himself at the depot, looking to the safety and comfort of the many thousand persons who were transported back and forth. The trains started every fifteen minutes; and it is remarkable that, notwithstanding the rush and crowding of anxious men, women and children, not the slightest accident occurred.

"Such, in brief, is the account of the celebration which for several weeks past has been the subject of conversation. But for the intense heat of the weather, everything contemplated and expressed in the programme, would have been fully carried out, and all who were present doubtless award to the committee of arrangement the credit of having endeavored, to the full extent of their ability, to discharge the duties entrusted to them."

The names of the committee of arrangements are given below. It was falsely charged by the reporter of the *New York Herald*, who was present at the celebration, that people of Monmouth County—farmers and others—embraced the occasion as an opportunity for money-making by bringing various articles of refreshment to Freehold and selling them at high prices. The charge was refuted in a card published by the committee in the *Monmouth Democrat* of July 6th, from which the following is extracted:

"We wish to cast back with indignation the statement made by one or two journals of the day, that the farmers in the neighborhood 'made a penny' by erecting stands and selling articles of food, etc. None of the farmers of Monmouth County had any articles for sale, but generously gave, to all who needed, of whatever they had.

"To Doctors De Bow, Freeman, Polhemus, Barclay, Conover, Laird and others we tender our sincere thanks for their prompt attendance on the sick and wounded without making any charge for their services. To Doctors De Bow and Freeman particularly for their attention in amputating the arm of the unfortunate Coles.

"To P. T. Barnum, Esq., and E. K. Collins, Esq., of New York, we tender our thanks for the loan of flags used on this occasion.

"To the citizens of Freehold we are unfeignedly grateful, for their liberality, kind attention and efficient aid. To the 'Monmouth Guards' and 'Monmouth Troop' we are indebted for much assistance, not only on the 28th, but previously. They merit and receive our warmest regards.

J. B. Throckmorton,	Henry Bennett,
Wm. V. Ward,	A. T. Manning,
Enoch L. Cowart,	Joseph A. Yard,
John Woodhull,	Samuel Conover,
James S. Yard,	Wm. D. Oliphant,
David M. Rue,	Daniel Christopher,
	"Committee."

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

DAVID CLARK PERRINE.—The great-great-grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch was John Perrine, whose death occurred between the years 1799 and 1800. His children were John, Henry, James, Daniel, Joseph, William, Margaret, Rebecca, Hannah and Annie. John, of this number, whose birth occurred October 20, 1722, and his death April 26, 1804, married, June 3, 1755, Mary Rue, who was born March 7, 1736. Their children were Ann, Rebecca, John, Hannah, Peter, Matthew and Joseph. John Perrine, who was born March 30, 1762, and died November 17, 1848, married Ann Stout, born August 12, 1761. Their children were John, David, Lewis, William I., Enoch, Polly and Kate. John Perrine was a second time married, to Catharine Perrine, born December 17, 1803, whose children were Isaac, Ann Eliza, Mary



Matilda, Catharine H. and George Washington.

David Perrine, of this number, the father of David Clark Perrine, was born January 10, 1784, and on the 31st of March, 1808, married Phebe Baird, whose birth occurred November 14, 1790. Their children are Lydia, (who married William Snowhill), John D., Mary, David Clark, Alfred, Ree Baird, Deborah E. (now the wife of Gilbert W. Mount), De La Fayette,

at the expiration of which period he was admitted as a partner in the firm of Lippincott, Davis & Co. At the end of the second year he formed a new business relation as a member of the firm of Cowart & Perrine, and in 1852, having dissolved this partnership, embarked alone in mercantile enterprises. Mr. Perrine was, on the 5th of February, 1851, married to Hannah Matilda, daughter of David I. Van Derveer and his wife, Mary Conover. Their



*David Clark Perrine*

Caroline (married to Gilbert Mount), Charles, Edwin A. Stevens and Margaret Cook (married to James Bowne). David Clark Perrine was born on the 20th of October, 1816, at Clarksburg, in Millstone township, Monmouth County, and received his earliest advantages of education at Hightstown, N. J. On attaining his fourteenth year he removed to Freehold, and began a business career as a clerk on a salary of twenty-five dollars a year, with an advance of ten dollars each succeeding year for six years,

children are David Van Derveer, born May 25, 1853; William Conover, born April 16, 1855, who died May 6, 1856; John Rhea, born May 23, 1857, who died March 23, 1861; Mary Conover, born April 17, 1863, who died February 5, 1873; and Arthur D., born April 28, 1868, whose death occurred August 13, 1869. Mr. Perrine, in addition to his extensive commercial interests in Freehold, has embarked largely in the business of milling on the Matchaponix river, in Middlesex County, N. J., and





may be regarded as the most considerable buyer and shipper of grain in the county. His private affairs have, however, not precluded active co-operation in the various projects connected with the public welfare, as president of the Freehold Gas Company, treasurer of the Freehold and Englishtown Turnpike Company, etc. He is a Democrat in politics, and zealous for the success of his party, though in no sense a politician, having filled no important office other than that of the first treasurer of the town of

a reward of fifty guineas for his head, so greatly was he feared by reason of his bold exploits.

Daniel S. passed his boyhood days on a farm at Pleasant Valley, Monmouth County, with but limited opportunities for obtaining an education; but under the promptings of an ambitious and determined nature, he resolved to begin mercantile life in New York City, and at seventeen or eighteen years of age entered the employ of Conover & Pickett, glass merchants.

His clerkship was of but limited duration, as



*Daniel S. Schanck*

Freehold. His religious support is given to the Presbyterian Church of Freehold, of which his wife and son are members.

**DANIEL S. SCHANCK.**—The subject of this sketch, the son of John and Michä Van Hise Schanck, was born at Middletown Point, Monmouth County, N. J., June 3, 1812.

His paternal grandfather was Captain John Schanck, a brave officer in the Continental army, of whom it is recorded that the British offered

he soon resolved to embark in business upon his own account, and formed a firm which enjoyed unbroken success until the decease of Mr. Schanck, May 5, 1872.

Mr. Schanck never lost his affection for or interest in those with whom he was associated in his boyhood days; nor did he fail to aid in every proper manner the interests of his native county and State.

While a man of large charities, he never varied from a rule of unostentation in his gifts,



except in the case of the erection of an observatory for Rutgers College, in which instance he permitted the inscription of "The Schanck Observatory" to be placed thereon. At the time this observatory was of great value to the college, and was fully equipped with necessary instruments, etc., by Mr. Schanck's beneficence.

Daniel S. Schanck married Mary Ann Smock on the 23d of March, 1842. His widow and four children survive him. These, as heirs of the estate, united in the donation to

children, among whom was Dyonis, married, in 1707, to Elizabeth Polhemus, whose children were six in number. Their son Tunis, born in 1692, married, first, Helena Van Dyck, and second, Franciske Hendrickson. He subsequently removed from Long Island to Monmouth County. Among his children was Daniel Denise, father of John S. Denise, for more than forty years collector of Monmouth County, who was born in 1748, and married, in 1771, Jane Schenck, whose birth occurred in



*John S. Denise*

the State of New Jersey of the Monument Park, in the village of Freehold, in which is erected the monument to commemorate the battle of Monmouth.

**JOHN S. DENISE.**—Tunis Nyssen, the common ancestor of the Denise family in America, emigrated from Binninck, in the province of Utrecht, Holland, in 1638, and was a man of prominence both in his native and adopted countries. He married Phoebe Felix, of English parentage, and had twelve

1754. To this union were born ten children. By a second marriage, to Mary Stillwell, were born three children. John S. Denise, a son by the first marriage, was a native of Freehold, his birth having occurred September 30, 1796, on the homestead, which has been for a period of one hundred and seventy years, and is still, in possession of the family. His youth was uneventful, having been varied only by attendance at school and labor on the farm. He was, however, self-taught, and acquired from observation and intelligent reading in later life more







By J. H. B. 1864

*Am. J. Hardy.*



knowledge than was derived from the study of books. He continued a valuable aid to his father in his farming enterprises until the death of the latter, when his son inherited a portion and purchased the remainder of the property. He resided in the township, and continued to be one of its most enterprising farmers, until 1859, when, having retired from active business, he made Freehold his residence.

He was, on the 3d of February, 1819, married to Catharine, daughter of William I. Thompson, of the same county, and had ten children,—Tunis, William T., Daniel S., Margaret Ann, Sarah Jane (Mrs. Peter Jackson), John Henry, Rusha, Sidney C., David D. and Rusha (second), of whom but four survive. Mr. Denise, aside from his farming interests, was largely engaged in real estate operations, in which he was remarkably successful. He was director of the First National Bank of Freehold, president and director of the Freehold and Colt's Neck Turnpike Company, director of the Freehold and Manalapan Turnpike Company, and actively identified with the material interests of both county and borough. He was a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and in hearty sympathy with its purpose and methods. Mr. Denise was, in his political views, an Old-Line Whig during the existence of that party, and joined the Republican ranks on the disruption of the former. He never aspired to office, and was not active as a politician, though serving as town commissioner until he declined further election. He enjoyed a reputation for strict integrity, and possessed a keen sense of justice. In his varied business transactions he neither sued others nor was himself a party to litigation. Mr. Denise was a member of the Second Reformed (Dutch) Church of Freehold, of which he was one of the founders, and in which he had been during a period of forty years an elder. His many acts of charity in connection with this church indicated his Christian faith, as exemplified in his works. Without ostentation and with great judgment he gave, witnessing the results of his liberality during his lifetime. Mr. and Mrs. Denise celebrated, on the 5th of February, the fiftieth anniversary of

their marriage, and five years later their fifty-fifth anniversary of the same event. On these significant occasions many friends beside the immediate family circle tendered their congratulations to this aged couple, who enjoyed a married life of sixty years' duration. The death of Mrs. Denise occurred on the 19th of April, 1879, and that of Mr. Denise on the 31st of December of the following year.

WILLIAM VAUGHN WARD, who for more than twenty years was a prominent merchant of Freehold, and a well-known and public-spirited citizen, was a great-grandson of Michael Ward, who, as early as 1731, had settled and was living at Hightstown, N. J., he being one of three brothers who had come to America together prior to that time.

Benjamin, son of Michael and Hannah Ward, was born February 7, 1731–32, and died June 20, 1797. His wife, Lydia Cheeseman, was born December 18, 1742, and died November 13, 1794. They had three sons and four daughters. Their third son, On Ward, father of the subject of this biographical sketch, was born May 13, 1768. His wife was Rebekah Vaughn.

William V. Ward, son of On and Rebekah (Vaughn) Ward, was born October 10, 1816, he being the youngest of a family of six children, all of whom except himself lived and died in Mercer County. He removed to Howell township, Monmouth County, where, in 1841, he commenced a mercantile business at Lower Squankum, in partnership with Abraham G. Neafie, ex-sheriff of Monmouth County. In 1844 the business was closed by reason of financial difficulties. He then entered the employ of his father-in-law, John Hall, where he remained for some time. The closing of the business at Lower Squankum had left Mr. Ward almost wholly without means, but his credit enabled him to recommence business, which he did, removing to Freehold, and there opening a store of ready-made clothing, which was the first in that line ever opened in the town. The business proved very successful, and was continued by him for twenty-two years, until the time of his death.

Mr. Ward was married, September 5, 1843,





to Catharine K. Hall, daughter of John and Rebecca (Knott) Hall. Their children were John H., George D. (deceased), Charles E. (deceased), Elizabeth H., Everitt, George F. and Harry (deceased). Mr. Ward died at Long Branch, July 27, 1866. His widow still resides at Freehold. Of the surviving children, John H. and Everitt Ward are merchants in New York, the former being unmarried; Elizabeth (Mrs. Mount) lives in Freehold; George F. Ward is in the real estate and insurance business in Freehold.

Mr. Ward was reared in the Baptist faith, but after his marriage he became, and continued to be, an attendant and supporter of the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife was, and now is, a member. He was a staunch Democrat and a politician, though never a scheming one. He was twice elected a member of the Legislature, serving in the years 1860 to 1862. He was appointed State Prison inspector by Governor William A. Newell in 1858, and served in that office till 1866, under the administration of Governors Newell, Olden and Parker, performing its duties in a manner creditable to himself and advantageous to the State.

JOHN HALL, the father of Mrs. William V. Ward, was for several years a resident of Freehold village, having previously spent more than sixty years in business in Howell township. His father was Samuel Hall, who, with his brothers Jesse and Jacob, came from England to America before the Revolution. Jesse migrated South, Jacob located in New York and Samuel settled at Kingwood, N. J. His wife was Ruhama Everitt, and they became the parents of twelve children. The youngest son, John, was born at Kingwood in 1786. At the age of nineteen years he removed to Howell township, Monmouth County, where he commenced a general merchandising business, as also that of tanning and currying leather. After about twenty years he discontinued the leather business, but remained actively and successfully engaged in the mercantile pursuit for more than forty years from the time of his commencement.

In 1825, Mr. Hall was married to Rebecca Knott, daughter of Joseph and Catharine Knott, of Shark River. Their children were Catha-

rine K. (Mrs. William V. Ward, of Freehold), Ruhama (Mrs. Stoutenburgh, of New York), Eliza Ann (deceased) and Dr. Charles E. Hall (now of Freehold.) In 1867, Mr. and Mrs. John Hall removed from Howell to Freehold, where they passed the remainder of their lives. She died in March, 1878; he in November, 1881.

The only public office ever held by Mr. Hall was that of township collector of Howell, which position he filled for more than thirty years, and until he positively declined serving longer. He was no politician, yet a staunch Democrat in principle and practice, having annually voted that ticket, continuously and without an omission, for seventy-two years. He was an attendant and supporter of the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife was an active and consistent member.



HENRY BENNETT.—The grandfather of Henry Bennett was Hendrick, the son of William Bennett, born October 15, 1752, who died July 28, 1833, in Freehold, N. J. He was united in marriage, October 16, 1774, to Elizabeth Nowlan, whose birth occurred January 27, 1754, and her death August 29, 1817. Their children were William H., born August 1, 1775, who died April 20, 1848; John, born March 27, 1778, whose death occurred November 30, 1812; Elizabeth, born March 11, 1780, who died August 10, 1849; and Nancy, born March 24, 1783, who died in January, 1784. William H. Bennett married, on the 29th of December, 1800, Jane, daughter of Oukey Lefferson, and granddaughter of Lefferts and Jannetje Lefferson. The children of this marriage were Sarah, born October 11, 1801, and married to Walter W. Hart; John, born October 15, 1803; Elizabeth Ann, born January 22, 1806; William, born August 13, 1808; Henry, whose birth occurred March 17, 1811; Garret Schanck, born May 13, 1813; Gilbert, born June 18, 1815; Eliza Ann, born April 17, 1818; Charles A., whose birth occurred June 4, 1820; David V., born April 23, 1822; and Hudson, born May 1, 1825. Henry Bennett was born in the borough





*Eng'd by A.H. Ritchie*

*Henry Bennett*





of Freehold, and received his only educational opportunities at a school three miles from his home. At the age of fifteen a serious accident disabled him and for eighteen months rendered physical exertion impossible. On his recovery he was apprenticed to the trade of a tailor, and pursued successfully for fifteen years the business of a merchant tailor, when, on the death of his father, in 1848, he inherited a portion of the estate. He at once began, and has continued until the present time, to improve the property by the erection of dwellings and the sale of lots for building purposes. Major Bennett in earlier years manifested an active interest in military affairs, and received from Governor Newell, in 1857, his commission as major of the Ocean and Monmouth Brigade. He was also appointed paymaster on the staff of Governor Parker. He rendered efficient aid in the recruiting service during the late war, and was only precluded from active service by his physical condition, which rendered the performance of military duty impossible. His political associations are Democratic, as were also those of his father. He has filled the office of town clerk for many years, and was for six years treasurer of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and the first secretary of the society, of which he was one of the originators. He is a director of the Freehold Gas Light Company and the Monmouth County Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Freehold, and was treasurer of the Freehold Loan Association from 1853 to 1864. Major Bennett is a member of the Second Reformed Church of Freehold, in which he has been deacon, elder, and clerk of the consistory. He is a member of both the Masonic and Odd-Fellows' fraternities, and was for twenty-four years treasurer of the latter order.

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## FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP.

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The township of Freehold is bounded on the west and northwest by Millstone and Manalapan, on the north by Marlborough, on the east by the townships of Atlantic and Howell

and on the south by Ocean County. Within these boundaries lies the town or village of Freehold, which is situated in the northern part of the township. The Jamesburg and Freehold Agricultural Railroad traverses the township from northwest to southeast, passing through the county town; from which, also, the Freehold and New York Railway passes through the north part of the township into Marlborough, and thence to Matawan. Freehold township is a part of the water-shed line of the county, and from it the head-streams of the Manasquan and Metedeconk Rivers flow towards the southeast; those of Hop Brook and Yellow Brook (tributaries of Swimming River) flow towards the northeast, while from the northwest part of the township several small streams flow westwardly to unite with the larger tributaries of the South and Millstone Rivers.

Freehold is one of the three original townships of Monmouth County, although the towns of Middletown and Shrewsbury had been recognized in the public acts of the Governor, Council and General Assembly of New Jersey several years prior to the passage of the act of October 31, 1693,—then approved by Governor Andrew Hamilton,—by which the province was first divided into townships. By that act it was provided and declared that

“The township of Freehold includes all the land from the Head of Cheesequakes Creek, and runs along the lines of Middletown to the Burlington Path; thence along the line of Shrewsbury to the line of the Province; thence along the Province Line to the line of the county; thence northeast along the said county line to where it began.”

The first reduction of the territory of Freehold township was the laying off of the southwestern portion to form the township of Upper Freehold, which was done prior to 1730. No record of the erection of Upper Freehold is found, and therefore neither the precise date nor the original boundaries can be given of the part taken from Freehold for that purpose.

An act passed in 1767, “to divide the town of Shrewsbury and annex parts thereof to the towns of Freehold and Upper Freehold,” after providing for the formation of the new township of Dover (now in Ocean County)



from the territory of Shrewsbury, proceeds as follows:

"All that part of the aforesaid township of Shrewsbury, beginning at the mouth of Passaquanaqua Brook where it empties into Manasquan River, and from thence running south to the line of the before-mentioned town of Dover; thence west along the same line to the line of that part of said township of Shrewsbury annexed to the town of Upper Freehold; thence north eighteen degrees west to where Burlington Old Path crosseth the north branch of Tom's River, alias Pine Brook; thence easterly along the bounds of Freehold to where it began, shall be, and is hereby divided off from the said town of Shrewsbury and annexed unto the town of Freehold, and forever hereafter shall be accounted part thereof."

Further reductions of the territory of Freehold were made in 1844 (act of February 28th) by the erection of Millstone; in 1847 by the erection of Atlantic, and in 1848 by the erection of Marlboro' and Manalapan townships, all of which took parts of the area of Freehold, and to the histories of which (elsewhere given in this volume) reference may be had for a description of the Freehold territory embraced in their erection.

The settlements first made within the territory of the old township of Freehold are referred to in a letter written by Lewis Morris, of Shrewsbury (afterwards Governor of New Jersey), to the bishop of London in the year 1700, as follows:

"Freehold was settled from Scotland (Mr. Keith began the first settlement there, and made a fine Plantation, which he afterwards sold, and went into Pennsylvania), and about the one-half of it are Scotch Presbyterians and a sober people; the other part of it was settled by people (some from New England, some from New York and some from the fore-mentioned towns)<sup>1</sup> who are, generally speaking, of no religion. There is in this town a Quaker Meeting-House, but most of the Quakers who built it are come off with Mr. Keith; they have not fixt yet on any religion, but are most inclinable to the Church; and could Mr. Keith be persuaded to go into those countrys he would (with the blessing of God) not only bring to the Church the Quakers that came off with him in East and West Jersey, which are very numerous, but make many converts in that country."

Oldmixon, writing in 1708, says: "There's

a new Town in the County called Freehold, which has not been laid out and inhabited long. It does not as yet contain above forty Families, and as to its Out plantations, we suppose they are much the same in number with the rest, and may count it about thirty thousand acres. . . . There are several Congregations of Church of England Men, as at Shrewsbury, Amboy, Elizabeth Town and Freehold, whose Minister is Mr John Beak,—his income is £65."

With reference to the first settlements in Freehold, it is to be noticed that Lewis Morris, in the before-quoted letter to the Bishop of London, in 1700, mentions "Mr. Keith" as the pioneer settler in the township. In the "Records of y<sup>e</sup> Highways in y<sup>e</sup> Countie of Monmouth," as laid out March 2, 1687, is found the laying of a road, as follows: "And Burlington Path being the King's Highway from Crosswicks Creek, by George Keith's plantation, to John Hampton's, as ye way now goeth, and so to ye Leonards, and thence to ye Falls, as the way goeth, but it is to be made more straight at the Leonard's and at some other places betwixt that and ye Falls." In other ancient writings it is written that George Keith was "a Scotch Man who founded Freehold, where he lived some time. He was a Quaker preacher, afterwards became an Episcopalian and started Episcopalian Churches in Freehold and Shrewsbury."

"George Keith, subsequently of considerable note as a prominent Quaker,<sup>2</sup> a missionary of the English Church and writer, arrived in East Jersey in 1685, having been appointed Surveyor-General of the Province by the Proprietors in Scotland [commissioned August 8, 1684]. He did not enter upon his duties, however, till some time after his arrival. It is thought that his acquaintance with the Scotch Proprietors grew out of the fact that, in 1683, he was in charge of a school which a son of Robert Barclay attended. He ran the division line between East and West Jersey in 1687, but two years afterward removed to Pennsylvania, and accepted the superintendence of a school in Philadelphia, and soon became eminent, both as a preacher and writer, among the Quakers, leading to the assumption of the post of a leader and the creation of a party which brought about great divisions and bitterness in a previously united body.

<sup>1</sup> Bergen, Acquackanonck, Elizabethtown, Newark, Woodbridge, Piscataway and Perth Amboy,

<sup>2</sup> N. J. Arch., Series I, vol. i. pp. 517-18.







His course was publicly denounced at a meeting of ministers in Philadelphia in 1692, but their action had no effect upon him. He continued preaching and writing in support of his views till 1694, when he returned to England, and soon after, although he retained a considerable number of adherents, he abjured the doctrines of the Quakers and became a zealous clergyman of the Established Church of England. He returned to America in 1702 as a missionary from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, receiving an allowance of £200 per annum. He preached in all the colonies from Massachusetts to North Carolina, several places in New Jersey profiting by his ministrations. Mr. Keith eventually returned to England, by way of Virginia, and received a benefice in Sussex, where he died, continuing until his death to write against the the doctrines of the Quakers."

The place where Mr. Keith preached in the township of Freehold was at Topanemus, which is in that part of the township which was subsequently taken off to form the township of Marlborough. Mr. Thomas Boels is mentioned as being then one of the leading men of the township, and the one who gave the site for the first Episcopal (St. Peter's) Church of Freehold. John Reid was also a prominent man at that place at that time. He was surveyor-general of the province and one of the justices of Monmouth County (in which capacity he presided at the first court held at what is now Freehold, in 1715). He came to reside in what was then the township of Freehold as early as 1690. In 1693, John Johnston was a resident of the township and a commissioner of assessments for it. In 1697, Richard Salter was one of the inhabitants of Freehold township,—the records showing him to have been such, and that in that year he was appointed "King's Attorney" in the courts. In the southerly part of the township Cornelius Thomson was a resident as early as 1702, in which year he built the old stone house which is still standing about three miles south of Freehold town, just over the Manalapan township line, and is now occupied by Mrs. Achsah Hendrickson. At this old house (then owned and occupied by Cornelius Thomson) the township meetings were held in 1710, and it was one of the principal places where public meetings were held for twenty years later.

The first settlers in the old township of Freehold were (as mentioned by Lewis Morris in the letter to the bishop of London, already quoted) Scotchmen, and, almost as a matter of course, largely Presbyterian. Before the year 1700 they had established a church of that denomination near the Middlesex County line, in what was then Freehold township, "on the old way [from Burlington] to Freehold and Amboy." Of that church the Rev. Joseph Morgan became pastor in 1709. With reference to this godly man, there is found in "New Jersey Colonial Documents" (series 1, vol. iv. page 190) the following:

"Letter from Joseph Morgan, of Freehold, New Jersey, to the Lords of Trade,—relating to some improvements in modes of navigation.

"Freehold, in Monmouth County, in y<sup>e</sup> East division of New Jersey, in North America.

"AUG. 5, 1714.

"May it please your Lordships:

"I hope y<sup>e</sup> enclosed Work will excuse my Presumption in writing to your Lordships, & though hitherto I am to you unknown, y<sup>e</sup> Work inclosed will be never y<sup>e</sup> Worse known, it being y<sup>t</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> will justify or condemn it-Self when effectually put to Tryal.

"What I propose to do by it I know to be true, but what y<sup>e</sup> Benefit of it at Sea in Calms & contrary Winds, I (having never crost y<sup>e</sup> Sea) must leave to Marriners to judge; and I believe yy can give no good Judgment till yy have tryed it. The Small cost, y<sup>e</sup> Lightness & little Lumber in a Ship, recommends y<sup>e</sup> Work to tryal. The oars keeping stroke on both sides of y<sup>e</sup> Ship to a hair's breadth, if y<sup>e</sup> were an hundred of y<sup>m</sup>, & y<sup>e</sup> Same Machine serving to row w<sup>th</sup> many or few Oars indifferently, & y<sup>e</sup> Ease of Wealding y<sup>e</sup> Oars if great enough to require an hundred men to carry oue of y<sup>m</sup>, & by consequence Oars big enough for a Spanish Galleon or y<sup>e</sup> Royal Sovereign, or such great Oars y<sup>t</sup> a Pair or two (if need require) Shall be Sufficient for a Ship; (together w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> hanging of y<sup>e</sup> Oars so y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> rowling Sea can have no power on y<sup>m</sup>) any other way y<sup>e</sup> only to thrust y<sup>e</sup> Ships forward, & y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Strength of One man will row as much as 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 or ten men, according to y<sup>e</sup> way y<sup>t</sup> is taken, besides y<sup>e</sup> Addition of y<sup>e</sup> weight of y<sup>e</sup> wheel by it's motion & y<sup>e</sup> Swiftness of y<sup>e</sup> Oars into & in y<sup>e</sup> Water by y<sup>e</sup> help of Weights or Springs (all w<sup>ch</sup> are infallibly so) recommend y<sup>e</sup> Tryal of it against y<sup>e</sup> Wind at Sea, w<sup>ch</sup> if good may save many a Ship from Ship-wreck, & by weathering points, &c., many weeks & Months in voiaes & be excellent in War."

Then follow thirteen descriptions of the mode of applying the invention to ships, with pen and



ink figures, showing the wheels, cranks, booms, etc., that were to aid men employed in moving the oars, which were to project from the sides of vessels, as "Found out in y<sup>e</sup> year 1712 [to 1714] by Joseph Morgan, of Freehold, in New Jersey, in North America." To the preceding Mr. Morgan adds, in his memorial: "In this Work it being as easy to weald Oars for y<sup>e</sup> greatest Ship on y<sup>e</sup> Ocean, as for y<sup>e</sup> Smallest Boat, and one man's Strength equalizing so many, y<sup>e</sup> benefit must be exceeding great for ships y<sup>e</sup> lye becalmed or Wind Bound, &c." On the 28th of August he wrote again to the Lords, inclosing fifteen diagrams of methods of applying his invention, sending this communication by way of Philadelphia, fearing that the earlier inclosures might have miscarried. Nothing is found showing that the Lords or the Queen took any action as to the adoption of his inventions, which were certainly a foreshadowing (and perhaps the earliest) of the present system of propelling vessels by mechanical power.

In 1763 the Rev. Samuel Cooke was the missionary in Monmouth County of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, his labors being in Freehold, Shrewsbury, Middletown and vicinity, his salary being sixty pounds per year. With reference to his labors in this region, the minutes of the society give the following:

"The Rev. Mr. Cooke, the Society's Missionary in Monmouth County, in his letter dated November 14, 1763, acquaints the Society that his Congregation at Shrewsbury purpose to set about enlarging (if not entirely rebuilding) their church, and that his Congregation of Freehold and Middletown are gradually improving under his care. In another letter, dated October 11, 1764, he writes that besides the regular Duties of the Mission, he officiates, as often as Opportunity will permit, at Cranbury, Middletown Point, &c., where he finds the People well disposed. He has baptised since April, six Adults, after they had passed publick and very satisfactory Examination; five Children between six and ten years of Age, and thirty-one Infants."

The pastor above referred to, left his congregation and went over to the British in the War of the Revolution. During that struggle Freehold township was the scene of many exciting and memorable events, which have been men-

tioned elsewhere in this history. Among these is one which has become historie, viz., the posting of Colonel Morgan and his riflemen at Richmond's Mill on the 28th of June, 1778, during the battle of Monmouth. The mill, now owned by Charles Van Cleaf, standing on one of the branches of Manasquan River, a short distance from Blue Ball, is on the site of the old Richmond Mill of the Revolution, which, as late as 1825, was the property of David Richmond, from whom it passed to Aaron Shaw, and afterwards to Joseph Shumar, from whom it obtained its present name of Shumar's Mill.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Freehold township: "Its greatest length, northeast and southwest, is twenty-three miles; greatest breadth, eleven miles; area, 104,000 acres; surface level, soil sand and sandy loam, not more than half of which is in cultivation, being barren or covered with pine forest. There are, however, some good farms which produce abundance of rye, corn, &c. Englishtown<sup>1</sup> and Freehold are villages and post-towns. Population in 1830, 5481. In 1832 the township contained about 1100 taxables, 203 householders, whose rateables did not exceed \$30, seventy-one single men, eleven stores, eleven saw-mills, sixteen run of grist-mill stones, two fulling-mills, four carding-machines, sixteen tan-vats, fourteen distilleries for cider, 1245 horses and mules and 2569 neat cattle."

Following is a list of the chosen freeholders of Freehold township from 1791 to the present time, viz.:

- 1791. William Lloyd.
- 1798-1802. William Lloyd.
- 1801-10. John P. Conover.
- 1805. George Cook.
- 1806-07. William Lloyd.
- 1819-44. John J. Conover.
- 1822-29. John J. Ely.
- 1835-39. John M. Perrine.
- 1840-41. Barzilla Hendrickson.
- 1842. Daniel Emkin.
- 1843-44. Barzilla Hendrickson.
- 1844-45. William Vandorn.
- 1845-48. Richard Hartshorne.

<sup>1</sup> Manalapan, Millstone and Marlboro' were taken from Freehold several years after the time here referred to.







1846-47. John M. Perrine.  
 1848-50. William Snyder.  
 1849. John Newell.  
 1850. Richard Hartshorne.  
 1851-52. Job Emmons.  
 1853. John Cox.  
 1854-55. William Snyder.  
 1856-59. John L. Doty.  
 1860-62. George W. Patterson.  
 1863-65. James S. Yard.  
 1866-74. Samuel Conover.  
 1875. Barclay Snyder.  
 1876-78. Alfred Walters.  
 1879-84. John H. Buck.

East Freehold village is located upon land which was owned before the Revolution by William Lane. The first attempt at business at this place was made in 1839, when Peter Antonides built a blacksmith-shop, in which he still continues the business. A school-house was erected in 1842, and in 1846 a dwelling-house was built. The place remained in this condition until 1870, when James S. Walling erected a blacksmith-shop and dwelling. In 1873, T. B. Halloway opened a grocery, which was continued for a short time only. The place is a station on the Freehold and New York Railway, north of Freehold town.

West Freehold, which was first known as "Mount's Corners," received that name from the tavern which was kept there by Moses Mount, who was there as early as 1800. He kept it till about 1836, when his grandson, John Mount, became the landlord and continued till 1855. Samuel V. Hankinson, the present landlord, came into possession in 1862.

About 1812, Job Throckmorton kept a store where the wheelwright shop now is, a short distance from the Corners. Thomas E. Combs opened a store about 1828 at the corner, and kept it until he removed to Red Bank, about 1835. In 1820 the real estate at and near the Corners was owned by Elisha Combs and Levi Solomon. About 1834, Edmund Connolly opened a blacksmith-shop, and was succeeded by William Forman. A post-office was established a few years since.

Smithburg village, or settlement, is on the Mount Holly road, in the southwestern part of the township, at the intersection of the lines of Millstone, Manalapan and Freehold townships.

A tavern is said to have been kept there before the Revolution. The property came into the possession of Charles Parker before 1800, and Joel Parker (since Governor of New Jersey), was born in the old house. His father, Charles Parker, kept it as a tavern several years, and sold to Asher Smith, who kept it until 1856, when he was succeeded by his son, William M. Smith, who sold it in 1863 to Lewis Chamberlain. The present owner is Morris Robbins. A store was built here in 1860 by William Smith, which was occupied for six years by William Segoine and four years by William M. Smith. It is now kept by R. Stricklan.

At Siloam, otherwise known as McIntyre's Corners, in Freehold township, a school-house was built on a lot, sold to the trustees by John L. Hendrickson, November 6, 1860. In 1860 a church was organized at the place and called Siloam. A Sunday-school was established in the old school-house by the Rev. John H. Boswell. On July 26, 1870, the corner-stone was laid for a church building, fifty-two by thirty feet, which was completed and dedicated July 28, 1871. The pastor for a time was Rev. A. J. Gregory. The society has been without a pastor for several years.

Clayton's Corners was so called from the store established there in 1858 by Clark Clayton, who continued until 1866, when Gilbert H. Irons succeeded him. In 1873, Horatio Clayton, the present owner and occupant, began business there.

The Hartshorne Mill, situated about one and a half miles north of Freehold town, on Spottswood North Brook, is now owned by General Charles Haight. Richard S. Hartshorne built a mill on the site of the present one in 1816, and owned and occupied it until 1835, when William Hartshorne became the owner and ran it until 1856, when he sold to John V. Hartshorne, his son, who, in 1874, sold to Haight & Ellis. The latter sold to General Haight, the present owner.

The poet, Philip Freneau, was a resident of Freehold township for a few of the later years of his life. In 1832 he lived in a house (now or recently owned by John Buck) about two miles below Freehold town. He died while on



his return from Freehold to his home, having become bewildered and benumbed by cold

A historic point in the township is the farm which, in Revolutionary times, was owned by the Rhea family,—often called the “Carr Farm,”—and now owned by D. Demarest Denise, situated a short distance southwest of Freehold town, on the road to Hightstown. The “middle ravine,” which is frequently mentioned in accounts of the battle of Monmouth, was on this farm. It was then swampy, but now, in consequence of underdraining, not much evidence of swamp remains, except depression in the ground. This farm belonged to the Rhea family, who resided in Freehold,<sup>1</sup> and the tenant on the farm was named Carr, and hence the house thereon was called in the accounts of the battle the “Carr House.” This farm extended nearly up to the village, and between it and the parsonage farm was the Wikoff farm, so there were only two farms between the village and the parsonage farm, where the main battle occurred. The old house on the Rhea-Denise farm was demolished within the past two or three years, and in pulling down the chimney a cannon-ball was found imbedded in it, about twelve feet from the ground.

On the Rhea farm, in the line of the retreat, is an old family burying-ground of the Rhea family. The oldest tombstone therein marks the grave of Janet Rhea, who died in 1715, aged ninety. Of course she was a Scotch emigrant. Another stone in the old burial-ground was erected to the memory of an owner of the farm, Robert Rhea, who died January 18, 1729. Another is that of Vauer Rhea, who died January 15, 1761, aged ninety-three years. Others are to the memory of David Rhea, who died in May, 1761, aged sixty-four years, and to Jonathan Rhea, who died May 23, 1770, aged sixty-three years, this last-named being the latest date found. Several children of Robert Rhea were also buried here.

Among the other burial-grounds in the township is that now used by the Baptist Society of Freehold. This, which is situated a short dis-

tance southwest of the town of Freehold, was established when the old Baptist Church was erected there, between the years 1762 and 1773. In 1822 the Rev. J. M. Challis, pastor of the Upper Freehold Baptist Church, speaking of a visit to the people in this vicinity, says: “The old church is almost in ruins.” It was soon after repaired and used until 1847, when the society built a church in Freehold. Since that time the grounds have been used for burial purposes only.

The cemetery of the Reformed Church of Freehold, though located in the township outside the corporation limits, is the principal cemetery of Freehold, and is more fully noticed in the preceding history of the town.

About one mile from Freehold town, on the east side of the Englishtown road, in Freehold township, is the cemetery of the Roman Catholic “Church of St. Rose of Lima,” of Freehold. This ground was purchased by the church in 1857, and was laid out and formally consecrated in the following year.

Near the Catholic cemetery is a small plat of ground which has been in use for many years as a burial-place for colored people.

The earliest mention of a school-house in this section is found in a record of 1705, of the laying out of the road leading from John Leonard’s, near Cherry-Tree Landing, in Middletown, by way of Tinton Falls, southwesterly to a post-road. The exact locality is not determined, but, as near as can be ascertained, it was without the old township of Freehold, which then embraced several townships, Upper Freehold then being within its limits. The description in which the school-house is mentioned is as follows: “Thence by Job Throckmorton’s; thence, as the road lies, to Combes’ Brook, thence as the road lies to the gully between Thomas Forman and the Scoole House; thence, as the old road was laid out, to David Clayton’s gully by his fence.”

In March, 1778, Joseph Rue advertised in the *New Jersey Gazette* that he “will open a Latin School in the house of Henry Perrine, Freehold, April 13, 1778.” No particulars of this school have been found.

<sup>1</sup> David Rhea, sheriff (1785), and Jonathan Rhea, clerk (1789), were of this family.





Across the road from the old Baptist Cemetery there was built, about 1824, a school-house, which remained in use until 1850, when it was abandoned, most of its pupils afterwards attending school in Freehold village.

In 1839, when Freehold embraced the townships of Marlboro', Manalapan and Millstone, it contained twenty-six full districts and four parts of districts. The names and numbers are here given, and their localities are easily determined,—

- No. 1.—Near Garret D. Hendrickson's.
- No. 2.—Jonathan Morgan.
- No. 3.—Union Missionary.
- No. 4.—Union Hill.
- No. 5.—Near Abraham's Mill.
- No. 6.—Session House.
- No. 7.—Englishtown.
- No. 8.—Near Englishtown.
- No. 9.—Manalapan.
- No. 10.—West Manalapan.
- No. 11.—Sweetman's Lane.
- No. 12.—Burnt Tavern.
- No. 13.—Black's Mills.
- No. 14.—Near Thomas Thompson's, dec.
- No. 15.—Freehold Corner.
- No. 16.—Corner Meeting-House.
- No. 17.—Freehold Academy.
- No. 18.—Near William Van Dorn's.
- No. 19.—Brick Church.
- No. 20.—Dutch Lane.
- No. 21.—Near Caleb Lockerson's.
- No. 22.—Georgia.
- No. 23.—New Prospect.
- No. 24.—Bowman's Bridge.
- No. 25.—Near Samuel Garrison.
- No. 26.—Near Jackson's Mills.

*Parts of Districts.*

- No. 27.—Near Bergen's Mill.
- No. 28.—Near Bebow's.
- No. 29.—Holmdel.
- No. 30.—Near Garrett Razo Conover.

The present township contains eight districts, including Freehold town, and has twelve hundred and sixty-one children of school age. The value of school property is estimated at twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars. The districts are as follows:

EAST FREEHOLD, No. 6.—About a mile north-east of Freehold an old school-house formerly stood which was known as "Dutch Lane School-House." It is thought to have been built soon after the Revolution. It was used many years,

and stood on land now owned by Holmes V. M. Dennis. About 1834, William Lane donated to Trustees John W. Griggs, John S. Denise and William Campbell about three-quarters of an acre of land at the Corners (now East Freehold). No school-house was erected upon the site until 1842, when the present edifice was erected and the old house was abandoned. The district contains ninety-one pupils.

LOKERSON DISTRICT, No. 8.—The lot was originally donated for the use of a school, over seventy-five years ago, by Jonathan Strickland, the elder. In 1852 the land was leased for thirty years, the house torn down and the present one erected. The lease expired in 1882, and it was again leased for thirty years. The district now contains sixty-three children of school age.

GEORGIA DISTRICT, No. 9.—The first school taught in this locality was in about 1796, in a small frame house not far from the present site. It was continued until 1808, when a house was erected on the site of the present building. It was used until about 1842, when another was built which served its purpose, and in 1862 was replaced by the present building. It is known also as Pleasant Grove School-House. The district contains sixty pupils.

SILAM DISTRICT, No. 10.—The present school-house was erected in 1870, and first occupied in November of that year. A school-house had been standing at the place since 1850, the lot having been purchased from John C. Hendrickson in November of that year, and the house erected on it. It stood till 1870, when, (as above mentioned) it was replaced by the present school-house. The district contains ninety-three pupils.

WEST FREEHOLD DISTRICT, No. 11.—The school-house at West Freehold is situated on a lot that was donated to trustees about 1818 by Ruloff Schenck. It served its purpose until the present building was built on the same site. West Freehold District, contains eighty-eight pupils.

THOMSON'S GROVE DISTRICT, No. 12.—The school-house situated near the Mount Holly road, in the southeast part of the township, is known as above. A school-house known as Thomson's was built on the hill between the



present house and the Mount Holly road before 1820. In 1824 it was moved to the site of the present building, repaired and used until about 1845, when it was torn down and replaced by a larger building, which served its purpose until about 1870, when the present edifice was erected at a cost of one thousand dollars. The district contains seventy-three children. It lies nearly on the line between Manalapan and Freehold townships, and pupils from both townships attend.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

HENRY WILLIAM PARKER is the grandson of William Parker, who spent his life as a farmer in Freehold township. He married Sarah Shepherd, whose children were Jesse, Lewis, Hannah, Edmund, Thomas, Robert, Lydia, James, William and John, all of whom, with the exception of Edmund and Jesse, emigrated with their mother to the West, and became prosperous citizens. Edmund was



*Henry W. Parker*

AUMACK DISTRICT, No. 13.—The children of Freehold village as early as 1815 attended school at a house that then stood near Cornelius Aumack's, in the northwest part of the township, and which was known as "Aumack's." After a few years this school was discontinued. A lot was then purchased of Holmes Ellis and the present house built upon it. It still retains the name "Aumack's," and is designated as No. 13. The present number of pupils in the district is forty-eight.

born in 1806 in Freehold township, where he continued the employment of his father, having married Sarah, daughter of John T. Smith, of Manalapan township. Their children are John S., Henry William, James S., Alfred M., John S., Rebecca Ann, Mary Elizabeth and Thomas, of whom James S. and Henry William are the only survivors. The latter was born on the 28th of August, 1836, in Freehold township, where he has, during his lifetime, been associated with the employment of a farmer.





His youth was varied by labor and attendance at the public schools of the township, after which his energies were devoted to the cultivation of the homestead, which his brother eventually inherited, and the subject of this biography purchased a farm opposite and in the same township. He was, on the 8th of October, 1867, married to Mary E., daughter of James A. Reid, of Manalapan township. Their children are Sarah S., Lydia R., James A., John R., Clarence H., Cornelius B. and

tional Bank. Mr. Parker was a trustee and is still a cheerful and liberal contributor to the support of the Presbyterian Church of Freehold, where his family worships.

**HORATIO ELY.**—The Elys first settled in New England in the seventeenth century, a branch of which family emigrated to New Jersey and probably located in Mercer County. John Ely, the great-grandfather, purchased in the above county an extensive tract of land, upon which he placed



*Horatio Ely*

Nellie W. Mr. Parker, though interested, is not active in the field of politics. He has, however, held various township offices, including that of trustee of schools. His warm interest in the cause of education prompted him to great activity in the purchase and reorganization of the Young Ladies' Seminary of Freehold, of which institution he is one of the trustees and a liberal supporter. He was formerly connected with, but has now resigned the position of director of the Freehold Na-

his sons, seven in number. Joshua, who resided on a farm now included in both Monmouth and Mercer Counties, married Ann Chamberlain, whose children were sons, John J. and Joseph, and daughters, Rebecca (Mrs. Matthew Rue) and Phebe (Mrs. John McKnight). John J. Ely was born April 7, 1778, and died January 11, 1852. He married Aelsah, daughter of William Mount, whose birth occurred February 2, 1780, and her death October 13, 1846. Their children are Ann, born in 1801; Joshua, in 1804;



William M., in 1806; Rebecca M., in 1808; William M., in 1810; Horatio, March 26, 1812; Joseph, in 1814; John W., in 1818; Henry D., in 1820; Thomas C., in 1822; and Adaline, in 1825. Mr. Ely was an active and representative Whig in politics, having been twice elected sheriff of his county, and filled a term as member from his district to the State Legislature. He first located as a farmer in Freehold township, and later removed to Holmdel, where his death occurred. He enjoyed a distinguished reputation for integrity and elevated moral character. In his religious convictions he was a Baptist, and worshiped with that denomination during his lifetime. His son Horatio was born on the farm he now occupies, in the vicinity of which his earliest instruction was received, after which he became a pupil of the Lennox Academy, at Lennox, Mass. Choosing the life of an agriculturalist, he returned to the homestead, and for a series of years managed the farm for his father. On the 3d of December, 1834, he was married to Helena, daughter of William I. Conover, of Manalapan. Their children are Jane C., born in 1835 (Mrs. John H. Denise); Achsah, in 1837, deceased; John J., in 1839; Helen, in 1841 (Mrs. Luther R. Smith); Adaline, in 1843 (Mrs. Luther Smith), deceased; Anna R., in 1845 (Mrs. L. Abraham); Horatio, Jr., deceased; William I., in 1851; Mary H., in 1853, deceased; Emma C., in 1855, deceased; Catherine E., in 1857, deceased; and Charles H., in 1859. Some years after his marriage Mr. Ely purchased the homestead farm, which he has since occupied and cultivated. His political sentiments have been always either strongly Whig or Republican. He was elected by his party sheriff of the county in 1837, and has occasionally filled offices in the township. He was formerly a director of the Freehold Banking Company, and now fills the same office in connection with the Monmouth County Fire Insurance Company. He for some years acted as trustee of the Paddle Institute, located at Hightstown, N. J., and was formerly president of the Freehold and Smithburg Turnpike Company. He is also a

Society. A strong Baptist in his religious faith, he is a member of the Freehold Baptist Church, in which he fills the office of deacon.

WILLIAM E. CONOVER.—Peter Conover was born February 16, 1726, and his wife, Anne, on the 30th of December, 1727. Their son, Lewis Conover, the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, who was a resident of Shrewsbury, and later of Freehold township, was active during the Revolutionary War as bearer of dispatches to General Washington at the battle of Monmouth. He married a Miss Scott, whose children were Ebenezer, Joseph, Hannah (Mrs. Joseph Rue), Ellen (Mrs. David C. Perrine), Deborah (Mrs. James Patterson), Helena (Mrs. Jacob Pittenger) and Ann (Mrs. William Jackson). Ebenezer Conover, a native of Monmouth County, resided during his lifetime upon property now owned by his sons in Freehold township. He married Mary, daughter of Ockey Lefferson, whose children were four sons—William E., James S., Arthur L. and John B.—and four daughters—Sarah (Mrs. Nathan H. Jackson), Rachel (Mrs. A. Conrow), Jane (Mrs. Levi S. Sutphen) and Mary A. (Mrs. Aaron Sutphen). William E. Conover was born on the 14th of October, 1815, in the township of Freehold, and has been during his lifetime associated with the employment of a farmer. He received in youth a substantial education, and rendered invaluable assistance to his father in his routine of farming. In February, 1838, he was married to Charlotte C., daughter of Jacob Baker, of the present township of Manalapan. Their children are Charles H., of Flint, Mich.; Ebenezer, whose death was the result of an accident; Jacob B., of Manalapan township; James M., of Freehold township; Nathan J., a civil engineer; Mary J.; Elizabeth V., wife of John L. Maney, of Brooklyn; Anne; and Frances, wife of William Segouine. Mr. Conover having determined to follow the pursuit of agriculture, on his marriage purchased a portion of the homestead farm, made it his residence and still cultivates its productive acres. He has been, as a business man, enterprising and sagacious; as a citizen, public-





spirited and liberal. His politics have been and are in harmony with the principles of the Democracy, though aside from his connection with the township committee he has held no office. He is the leading spirit of the Freehold and Howell Turnpike Company, of which he is secretary, treasurer, and superintendent. Mr. Conover is in religion identified with the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Freehold, in which he has served both as elder and deacon.

Thompson, daughter of William Campbell, of Freehold township, their children being William Henry (born March 13, 1849, who died February 12, 1881, leaving two children.—Mabel W. and William Howell), John Schenck (now a farmer in Oregon, whose birth occurred January 19, 1851), Fred. W. (born August 10, 1859, a student in the Medical Department of Columbia College, New York, who died May 31, 1884) and Irwin Demarest (whose birth occurred August 2, 1867, and his death



*Wm. E. Conover*

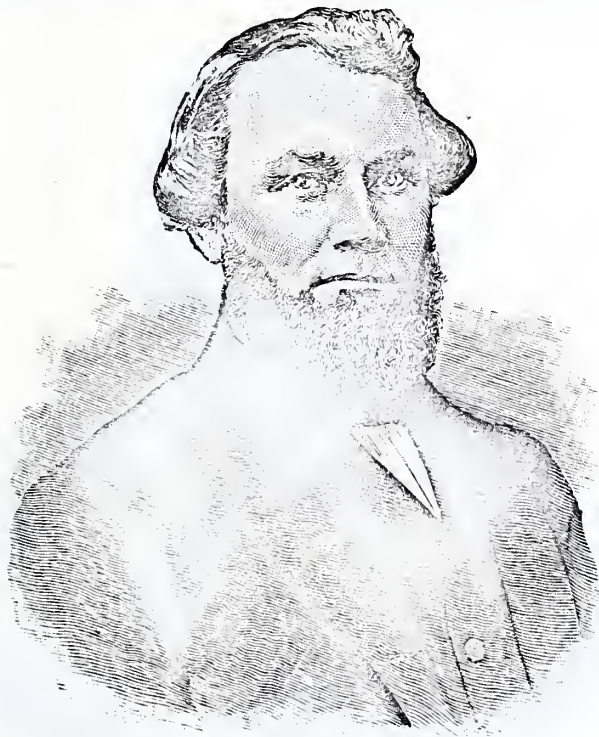
WILLIAM THOMPSON DENISE, the grandson of Daniel Denise and the son of John S. Denise, was born July 12, 1824, in Freehold township, and received such educational advantages as were obtainable at the school near his home and at the academy in Freehold, where he remained one year. Having determined to make agriculture the work of his life, he returned to the farm, and until twenty-four years of age assisted his father in its cultivation. He was, on the 27th of January, 1848, married to Miss Jane

March 26, 1870). Mr. Denise, in 1849, removed to and for thirteen years cultivated a farm in Freehold township, owned by his father, after which he purchased the homestead and resided upon it during the remainder of his life. He confined his labors to the general routine of farming, engaged in no new departures in the science of agriculture, but keeping pace with new inventions and mechanical devices for lightening the labor of the husbandman. His excellent judgment and enterprise at once en-



abled him to take rank among the most successful farmers of the county. He was a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society and of the Monmouth Grange, No. 92. Mr. Denise was a Republican in his political convictions, but gave little attention to the public issues of the day further than was indicated by the casting of his ballot. He was more largely identified with the moral and religious projects in the county, and was at various times

mouth County, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, on whose head a price of fifty guineas was fixed by the British. He married a Miss Denise, whose children were Garret, John, William, La Fayette, Daniel, Tunis, Denise, Hendrick, David, Jane (Mrs. Aaron Lane), Polly (Mrs. John Whitlock) and Katy (Mrs. Joseph Combs). Tunis, also a native of Monmouth County, resided in the present Manalapan township, where he was a man of much enterprise,



*Wm. T. Denise.*

both elder and deacon in the Second Reformed Church of Freehold, of which he was an active and liberal member.

The death of Mr. Denise occurred on the 6th of June, 1862.

**TUNIS V. SCHENCK.**—The genealogy of the Schenek family, being elsewhere given in the sketch of Rev. Garret S. Schenek, need not be repeated here.

John Schenek, a farmer and native of Mon-

managing at one time a farm, running a saw-mill and being engaged in manufacturing. He married Ollie, daughter of David Van Derveer, whose children were Maria, (Mrs. Gilbert Lane), Katy (Mrs. Peter Smock), Sarah (Mrs. William Robinson), Jane (Mrs. Samuel Craig), David, Ruloff and Tunis V., of whom but two survive. Tunis V., the youngest of this number and the subject of this biographical sketch, was born on the 20th of February, 1807, in Marlboro', then Freehold township,





and spent his boyhood at the home of his maternal grandfather, David Van Derveer, removing with him, at the age of twelve years, to his residence, in the township of Freehold. His education was derived from schools near his home, one at Lawrenceville, N. J., after which he acquired a knowledge of farming. Being more fortunate than most lads, he, at the age of seventeen, inherited the property now owned by him, and for many years cultivated the land; but as advancing years rendered hard labor irksome,

his party, nor sought the rewards of office, his own interests having engaged all his time and attention. His religious association has been with the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Freehold. The death of Mrs. Schenck occurred July 12, 1848.

HENRY WIKOFF, now one of the oldest citizens, and one of the most substantial farmers of Freehold township, in which he has had his residence for three-quarters of a century, is a lineal



*James A. Schenck*

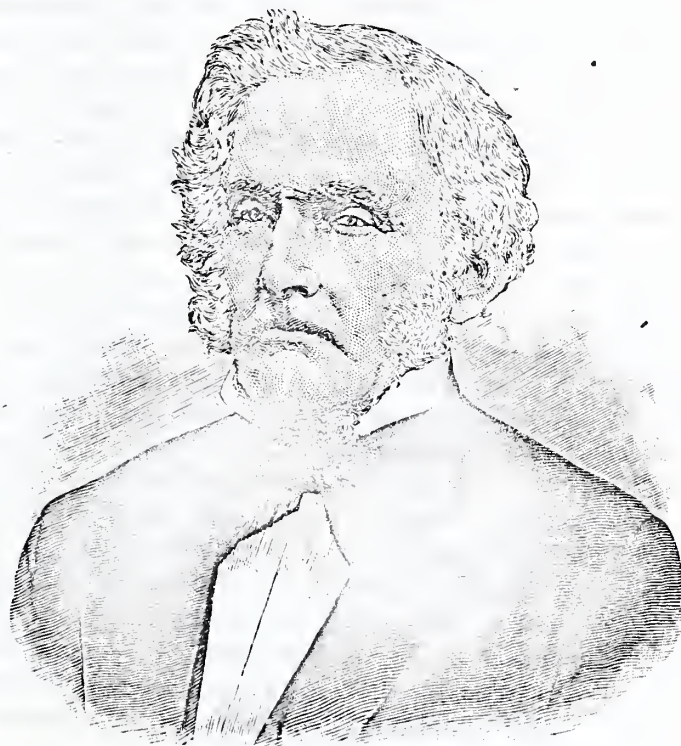
rented the farm, reserving an interest in the annual revenue from the crops. Mr. Schenck was, on the 31st of May, 1827, married to Mary Ann, daughter of Richard S. Hartshorne, of the same township and county. The children of this marriage are Elizabeth A., Susannah U. (deceased), M. Jane, Hannah H., (Mrs. John W. H. Conover), Lucy W. and Eleanor (Mrs. D. Arthur Van Derveer). A Democrat in his political predilections, Mr. Schenck has never been actively identified with the working phalanx of

descendant of Cornelius Wikoff (or Wykoff), who came from Holland in the year 1636, on the ship "King David" (Captain D. DeVries, master), and settled on Long Island, where he died, and where his son, Peter Claussen Wikoff, lies buried under the pulpit of the Reformed Church at Flatlands, L. I. His descendants removed from Long Island to Monmouth County, N. J. Among them, four or five generations down from Cornelius Wikoff, the first ancestor in America, was Garret Wikoff, whose place of



residence was in what is now the township of Marlborough, a little west of Marlborough village. Two of his sons, Peter and Samuel Wikoff, settled on farms near Imlaystown. Their half-brother, Auke Wikoff, was a lieutenant-colonel in the army of General Washington, and Peter Wikoff was one of the guides to the commander-in-chief at the battle of Monmouth. Samuel, brother of Peter, was the father of Jacob Wikoff, whose son Henry is the particular subject of this biography.

Jacob Wikoff, second son of Samuel and Gertrude, was born on his father's farm, near Imlaystown, March 29, 1765. His wife was Alice Green (daughter of William and Ann Green), who was born December 15, 1772. The children of Jacob and Alice Wikoff were William, Ann, Samuel, Henry, Garret, Jacob, Gertrude, John, Joshua Bennett, and Ezekiel. The eldest son, William, lived in Middletown township, where he died about 1870, and where his widow is still living, eighty-five years old. The sec-



*Henry Wikoff*

The children of Samuel and Gertrude Wikoff, were six in number, viz.,—Garret (who lived and died at Griggstown, Somerset County, N. J.), Jacob (father of Henry), Samuel (who removed from Upper Freehold to Ohio, where he died), Olive (who married John Hendrickson, of Upper Freehold), Catharine (who married William Croxson, and lived near Allentown) and Mary (who married Thomas Saxton, who lived in Upper Freehold township, near New Egypt).

ond son, Samuel, lived and died on his father's homestead farm in Freehold township. Garret, now eighty years of age, is living near Galesburg, Knox County, Ill.; Jacob died at his father's home aged about eighteen years; John is now living near Galesburg, Ill., seventy-eight years of age; Joshua Bennett Wikoff never married, and died at the Wikoff homestead about 1855; Ezekiel removed to Knox County, Ill., where he died, and where his widow and children still reside; Ann married Daniel Denise,





of Freehold township, and died in 1831; Gertrude was born April 9, 1809, married John Hallowell, December 20, 1838, and died June 7, 1841.

Henry Wikoff, son of Jacob and Alice (Green) Wikoff, was born in Upper Freehold township, August 25, 1802. In 1810 he removed with his parents to a farm which his father had purchased in Freehold township, about two miles from the court-house, on the old Colt's Neck road. On this homestead farm, where his parents passed the remainder of their lives, Henry Wikoff lived for more than twenty years. On the 13th of January, 1831, he was married to Emaline West, and then settled on a farm of one hundred and thirty acres on the Colt's Neck road, one mile east of Freehold, which he had purchased in 1830, and which has now been his home for fifty-four years. After a married life of forty-one years, his wife died at their home, April 10, 1872. She was a daughter of Elisha and Rachel West, born August 20, 1810, on her father's farm, near Long Branch, where she resided until her marriage. The farm is now owned by John Hoey.

The children of Henry and Emaline (West) Wikoff have been William Henry (born July 21, 1833, and now living in the town of Freehold), John W. (born May 23, 1835, and died September 17, 1838), Jacob S. (born December 12, 1837, and died August 27, 1838) and Charles Edward Wikoff (born November 19, 1843, and now living on the homestead farm of his father).

Henry Wikoff has been from early manhood a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, of Freehold, and Mrs. Wikoff was also a member of the same church until her death. When they first settled on their farm, in 1831, they occupied a small house, which is a part of Mr. Wikoff's present residence, it having been subsequently enlarged and remodeled. Besides this farm of one hundred and thirty acres, Mr. Wikoff now owns the two hundred acre farm which was his father's homestead, situated about two miles from Freehold. He has always been a farmer, and has followed no other vocation. Politically, he has always opposed the Democratic party, never failing to vote the Whig or

Republican ticket. He has, however, never sought or wished for public position, and has held none, except such township offices as no good citizen feels justified in declining when called on to serve in them.

William Henry Wikoff, eldest son of Henry and Emaline Wikoff, was married, in December, 1857, to Margaretta, daughter of Garret P. Conover, of Matawan. They are both members of the Presbyterian Church of the town of Freehold, which is their place of residence. Their children are two sons, Henry and Frederick.

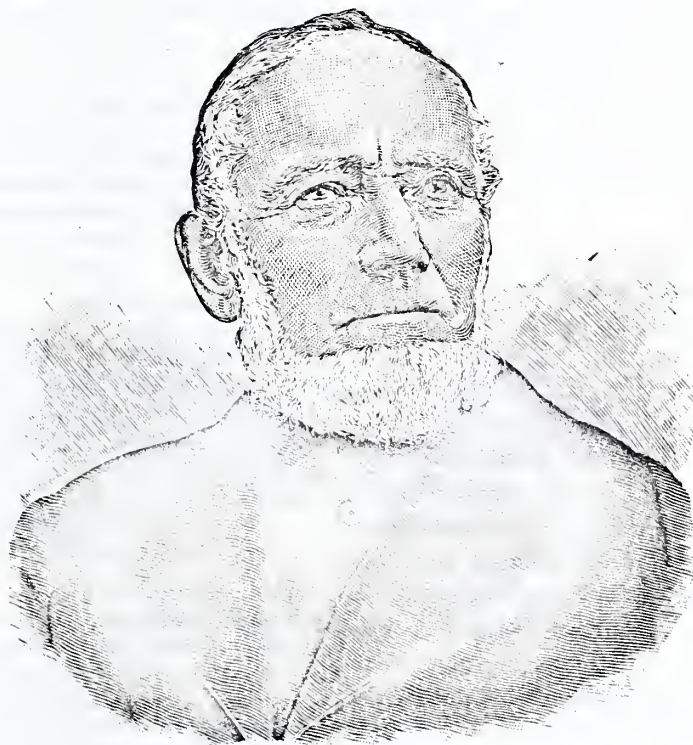
Charles Edward, youngest son of Henry Wikoff and his wife, Emaline West, was married, November 29, 1864, to Sarah Anne Forman, daughter of Richard Throckmorton Forman, and granddaughter of the celebrated Dr. Samuel Forman, on whose estate, near Freehold, she was born and reared. Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Wikoff are members of the Presbyterian Church of Freehold. They have had two children,—Frank Forman Wikoff (born September 28, 1865, and now living with his parents at the homestead) and George Henry Wikoff (born September 26, 1877, and died January 1, 1880).

SIDNEY THOMPSON.—Joseph Thompson, the grandfather of Sidney Thompson, who was of English descent, and born December 11, 1743, was a prosperous farmer in the present township of Manalapan, Monmouth County. He married Sarah, daughter of Peter and Leah Conover, who was born December 22, 1744, and had children,—Thomas, whose birth occurred August 13, 1767; Peter, born April 12, 1769; Elias, July 11, 1771; Joseph, November 27, 1774; John, September 29, 1776; William I., March 19, 1779; Lewis, January 31, 1783; Cornelius, August 3, 1785; and Charles, July 18, 1788. William I. Thompson married Margaret, daughter of Denise Denise, who was born March 24, 1775. Their children are Catharine, born April 1, 1800, married to John S. Denise; Denise, born September 23, 1802; Joseph C., October 23, 1804; Cornelia, October 3, 1806, married to David Buck; Sidney, December 7, 1808; William, March 6, 1816. The death of William I. Thompson occurred March



25, 1843, and that of wife July 5, 1856. Sidney, their third son, was born in Upper Freehold township, Monmouth County, and received his education first at the schools of the neighborhood, and later at Princeton, where he devoted three years to study, but, returning in feeble health, engaged for the time in no active employment. In 1843, on his recovery, he assisted in the cultivation of his father's farm, and in 1846 purchased his present home in Freehold township, where he has since been

formerly an Old Line Whig in politics, and on the organization of the Republican party found its platform in accord with his opinions. He has refused office, though for ten years justice of the peace of his township, during which period he amicably settled all disputes between his townsmen and never encouraged litigation. He was formerly connected by membership with the old Tennent Church, but now worships at the Reformed Church of Freehold, and has been a member of its consistory.



*Sidney Thompson*

devoted to the labor of an agriculturist. He was married, on the 10th of December, 1856, to Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Hendrickson, of Upper Freehold township, their children being Mary Ellen, born June 24, 1858, married to J. Vannest Du Bois, of Manalapan township; William Denise, born November 11, 1859, and residing with his father; and Eliza H., born December 8, 1860, who died August 10, 1861. Mr. Thompson was

## CHAPTER XVII.

### MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP.

MIDDLETOWN is one of the three original townships of Monmouth County, the others being Shrewsbury and Freehold. The first settlements in the county were made within the original limits of Middletown, by five families (two of which were those of John Bowne and Richard Stout), who came in the year 1664, about





one year before the first settlements were made in Shrewsbury, and nearly twenty years before the township of Freehold received its first settlers. During all that period Middletown and Shrewsbury were called the "Two Towns of Navesink." Of the early settlements made in these two townships under authority of the Monmouth patent, granted by Governor Richard Nicolls, an extended account has already been given in the chapter on Early Settlements and Land Titles.

The original division of Monmouth County into townships was made by an act<sup>1</sup> passed in

<sup>1</sup> Prior to this (in 1675) the boundaries of Middletown had been vaguely described and (as was then supposed) established; but this was done merely by a "town-meeting" held under authority of the "Monmouth Patent," an authority which was afterwards entirely ignored and disavowed by the proprietary government of New Jersey. The record of this action in the matter of establishing the boundaries of Middletown, is here given *verbatim*:

"June the .29. 1675

"At a legall towne meting it was Agreed upon the maior part then present that Jonathan Holmes John Throgmorton John willson John Smith Thomas whigtloc them or the maior part of them are chosen for to goe in to the woods about the 30th of this instant for to see and take a vew and consider were aboutes it will be most conveant for the Southwest and sutherd parts of midelltowne boundes should Runn and to give there Result

"Testis Richard Hartshorne Towne clarke."

"July the .10th. 1675

"At a legall towne meting it was by the maior part then present demanded of Jonathan Holmes John Throgmorton John Smith John wilson Thomas whitloe there Result concerning the southwest and souterd parts of midelltowne bowndes and there Result was as followeth: viz from the souterdmost part of Richard Hartshorne meadow which was formerly water walles which lyes at the hed almost of wakeake creeke begining at an oke tree marked by the creek side ove aganest the above sade meadow and soe along upon a straight line till you com to an oke tree that is marked standes northwest side of Seeperamek [?] from thence upon a straight line to an oke trec that is marked that standes on the southwest side of memtokeameck that is neare the hed of the littell hop river and soe along the river till you come to a chesnut tree marked and from thence to the hed of a swampe that lyes betwene jumping Creeke swampe and the nut swampe and soe along the Run in that swamp in to the new sand Rear

"Testis Richard Hartshorne Towne Clarke."

A town-meeting, held January 1, 1677, made some change in the bounds thus loosely settled by the agreement of 1675. The latter meeting resolved that "where as by that agreement it was coneluded that the boundes should

1693, approved by Governor Andrew Hamilton on the 31st of October in that year. The part of that act which has reference to Middletown is as follows: "In the County of Monmouth the township of Middletown includes all the land from the mouth of Neversink's River, and runs up said River and Swimming River and Saw-mill Brook to Burlington Path; thence over to the upper end of William Lawrence's land on Hop River; thence up the run which divides said Lawrence and John Johnston, to the head thereof; thence to the lower end of Richard Salter's land on Hop Brook; thence up the said brook to the head thereof; thence to the meeting of Gravel and Watson's Brooks; thence to the head of Matawan; thence to the head of Cheesequakes Creek; thence down said Creek to the Bay, and thence round along the shore to where it began."

The boundaries above described included not only the territory now embraced in Middletown, but also all that of the present townships of Raritan, Holmdel and Matawan, and a part of that of Atlantic township, erected in 1847. The history of that township gives the description of its boundaries, including the territory taken from Middletown to form it. In 1848 the northwestern part of the territory of Middletown was taken to form the township of Raritan, which, at its erection, included also all that is now included in Holmdel and Matawan. The description of the territory then taken from Middletown (reducing it to its present limits) is given in the history of Raritan township. The present boundaries of Middletown township are: On the north, Sandy Hook Bay; on the east, the Atlantic Ocean,<sup>2</sup> Navesink River and Shrewsbury township; on the south, Navesink River and the townships of Ocean,<sup>1</sup> Shrewsbury and Atlantic; on the west, Sandy Hook Bay<sup>2</sup> and the townships of Holmdel and Rari-

run from the littell hop river along the said rever to a chesnuttrec and now by the maior vote coneluded to runne from the chesnut tree by the hopriver along the said hop river in to the swimming Rever and soe in to the new said Rever in to the mane ocean.

"Testis Richard Hartshorne town clarke."

<sup>2</sup> The boundaries given above—viz.: east by the Atlantic Ocean, south by Ocean township and west by Sandy Hook Bay—have reference to the peninsula of Sandy Hook,



tau. The principal stream of the township is Navesink River, which flows into Sandy Hook Bay. The upper portion of it is called Swimming River, and still higher up it becomes Hop Brook. Into this stream several small tributaries flow southwardly through the township. There are also several small streams flowing from the north part of the township into Sandy Hook Bay. Two railway lines pass through the township: viz., the New Jersey Southern, of which the northern terminus is at Port Monmouth (Shoal Harbor), on Sandy Hook Bay; and the New York and Long Branch Railroad, which crosses the township in a southeasterly direction from its west line (against Holmdel) to the Navesink River, which it crosses at Red Bank. The sea-shore line from Long Branch to Sandy Hook also has its northern terminus within the township jurisdiction of Middletown. The population of this township by the United States census of 1880 was 5059.

The first election of freeholders in Middletown was held in March, 1710, at the house of M. Depuy. The Board of Freeholders was created by an act, passed in that year, requiring the building and repairing of court-houses and jails in the several counties, and providing for the raising of moneys for that purpose. The act authorized the inhabitants of each town and precinct to assemble on the second Tuesday of March, yearly, and choose two freeholders for the ensuing year; which said freeholders, together with all the justices of the peace of each county, or any three of them (one whereof being of the quorum), should meet together and appoint assessors and collectors, to assess the inhabitants and collect the taxes. In case any town or precinct should neglect to elect freeholders, the justices were authorized to appoint them. The board thus constituted continued to have the care and charge of the county business until the year 1798, when an act was passed incorporating the Board of Freeholders to act alone and independent of the justices, and with

which, though in possession of the United States government, is still, for township purposes, a part of Middletown. The southern boundary of this territory is a line across the neck, three-fourths of a mile below the Highland Station, at the drawbridge across the Navesink River.

the powers and functions which that board has since exercised.

Following is a list of chosen freeholders of Middletown township from the time when that body became an independent board to the present, viz.:

- 1799-1804. Tobias Polhemus.
- 1800-12. John Stillwell.
- 1805-10. Garret Stillwell.
- 1827-42. Daniel Holmes.
- 1832-42. Edmund Burrows.
- 1843-44. Hendrick Wikoff.
- 1843-47. William W. Bennett.
- 1845-47. James Patterson.
- 1843. Richard A. Leonard.
- 1848. William Griggs.
- 1849-55. James Patterson.
- 1849. John Hopping.
- 1850. William Griggs.
- 1856. Daniel Herbert.
- 1857-59. Elias W. Conover.
- 1860. Joseph G. Mount.
- 1861. Andrew Brower.
- 1862. Joseph Conover.
- 1863. Andrew Brower.
- 1864-69. William B. Hendrickson.
- 1870-72. Samuel H. Patterson.
- 1873. Thomas S. Field.
- 1874-75. William T. Conover.
- 1876. John West.
- 1877-78. George W. Crawford.
- 1879-80. Derrick G. Campbell.
- 1881-84. William H. Thompson.

Old Middletown village, situated in the western part of the township, is the point where the first settlements were made within its present limits by the Monmouth patentees and their associates, as has already been mentioned somewhat in detail elsewhere in this history.

The Monmouth patent was granted by Governor Richard Nicolls in 1665, and some of the settlers had even a few months before that time located on some of its lands, under an Indian purchase, but it was not until 1677 that Middletown was laid out as a village, as is shown by the original records of the township which are now in possession of Edward Hartshorne, and from which the following extracts referring to the laying out and to the "out lots" adjacent, are made, viz.:

"December 30, 1667.—The lotts of Middletown all layd out being numbered thirty-six: begining at the west end upon the south side with number one and





ending at the west end north side with number one  
and ending at the west end north side with no. thirty-  
six. . . . The south side

John Rucman . . . . .	Num: 1	Job Throckmorton . . . . .	22
Edward Tartte . . . . .	2	James Ashton . . . . .	23
John Wilson . . . . .	3	John Throckmorton . . . . .	24
Walter Wall . . . . .	4	William Goulding . . . . .	25
John Smith . . . . .	5	William Reape . . . . .	26
Richard Stoutt . . . . .	6	Edward Smith . . . . .	27
Richard Gibbins . . . . .	7	John Bowne . . . . .	28
Thomas Cox . . . . .	8	Beniamen Burden . . . . .	29
Jonathan Hulmes . . . . .	9	Samuell Spicer . . . . .	30
George Mount . . . . .	10	William Lawrence . . . . .	31
William Chesman . . . . .	11	Danell Estall . . . . .	32
Anthony Page . . . . .	12	Robert Jones . . . . .	33
Samuel Holeman . . . . .	13	Thomas Whitlock . . . . .	34
William Laiton . . . . .	14	Richard Sadler . . . . .	35
William Compton . . . . .	15	James Grover . . . . .	36
James Grover . . . . .	16		
Steven Arnold . . . . .	17	Ded Mc	
Samuell Spicer . . . . .	18	Bot	
John Stout . . . . .	19		[Torn off]
Obadiah Hulmes . . . . .	20		
Beniamen Deuell . . . . .	21		

"December 31, 1667.—It is ordered and Agreed unto that James Grover shall take a survey of the land that is to bee laid outt and to lay it out in to lotts: and likewise Richard Stoutt and James Ashton are chosen to assist him in doing of the same.

"The lotts that are in the Poplar feild and mount- any feild are numbered as followith begiuing at the west end upon the south side . . . .

Richard Sadler . . . . .	1	Steven Arnold . . . . .	26
William Reape . . . . .	2	William Golding . . . . .	27
John Rucman . . . . .	3	William Lawrence . . . . .	28
Thomas Whitlocke . . . . .	4	Daniel Estall . . . . .	29
John Stoutt . . . . .	5	These lotts have a private	
Obadiah Hulmes . . . . .	6	cartway: runs thereon	
Jonathan Hulmes . . . . .	7	from the west end to the	
James Ashton . . . . .	8	east end: wch way is two	
John Bowne . . . . .	9	rods: broad: running	
Beniamen Deuell . . . . .	10	east: northeast nearest:	
Edward Smith . . . . .	11	the lotts turning from the	
Richard Stoutt . . . . .	12	said way south and by	
Samuell Holeman . . . . .	13	east: and one the north	
William Compton . . . . .	14	side: north by west: other	
James Grover, senior . . . . .	15	two lotts lie at the south-	
Samuell Spicer . . . . .	16	east corner of the poplar	
Richard Gibbins . . . . .	17	feild: and other 5 lotts:	
John Throckmorton . . . . .	18	are by choncisissupus Run.	
George Mount . . . . .	19	William Laiton . . . . .	30
John Wilson . . . . .	20	Anthony Page . . . . .	31
Thomas Cocks . . . . .	21	Walter Wall . . . . .	32
William Chesman . . . . .	22	John Smith . . . . .	33
Beniamen Burden . . . . .	23	Edward Tartt . . . . .	34
Samuell Spicer . . . . .	24	Robert Jones . . . . .	35
James Grover, junior . . . . .	25	Job Throckmorton . . . . .	36

"January 6th, 1667.<sup>1</sup>—At a court holden in the towne of Middleton consisting of Richard Gibbins: Constable: william Lawrence Jonathan Hulmes: overseers *It is ordered* That all fences shall bee made sufficient by the 15th of April next upon the penalty of 6 pence a rod that shall bee found defective: it is likewise to bee understood that all fences shall be foure foot and 3 inches high at the least. . . *It is likewise ordered* That noe person whatsoever shall fell timber upon any man's land that is laid out yet every man that hath flaln any timber that is in any man's lott hath liberty to take it away in three months *Ordered* That if any one shall fell timber upon the common and shall lett it alye three monts it shall bee lawfull ffor any one to make use of it: provided it bee neither Hewed nor cloven *Overseers for the ffences* John Wilson and Thomas Cocks are chosen overseers of the fence for this yeare

"Testis James Grover Town Clerke."

"December: 16: 1668 This agreement made with the overseers of this towne and James Grover, concerning the laing out of the meadows: that is: that the sd James is to lay all the meadows out into lotts bee- tweene this and the first of June next, and the said James Grover is to have three sufficient men to goe along with him: till the worke bee fully done, and James Grover is to have for every acre that is layd out, one pound of good merchantable blade tobacco: it is to bee understood that the meadows that are to bee laid out are onely such that the towne shall thinke fitt. . . . Signed by James Grover."

"December 25: 1669 In a legall towne meeting: it was ordered by the maior vote that the lotte in the poplar feild belonging to Thomas Cox shall bec made good with 6 acres of good upland wch addition was made by the Judgement of William Lawrence and Steven Arnold and this to bee made before any other land be laid out.

"The whole quantity of upland of the lott: number: 16: was this day by the present Posesor: viz: James Grover: Senior: surrendered to the towne: the towne upon the surrender at the request of the said James did grant the full quantity of upland of a towne lott to lye one the southward side of the mill streame begiuing at the southward end of the mill damme and soe running 40 Rods up the hill: and soe (in length) towards the river (to make up the whole complement of upland,

"Testis Edw Tartt, Town Clearke."

"April 4th 1670 The Constable and Overseers with the assistance of the towne Deputies Considering a nessesity of the recording of lands to prevent future disturbance wch may arise by meanes of land markes beeing gone or defaced doe hereby order: that an ex-

<sup>1</sup>Old style is here used. The real date, according to the present style, should be January 6, 1668.



act record shall bee taken of every particular parcell of land belonging to the inhabitants of this towne by the Towne clearke: both the length: breadth: and number of acres: the forme and manner how it lies as exactly as may bee: and the same to bee recorded: and the clearke to receive eight pence for every such piece of land soe recorded."

"April 9th 1670 In a legall towne meeting it was this day ordered and agreed upon: that the way wch was formerly layd out by James Grover thorow the mountany feild and Poplar feild shall bee enlarged with the allowance of two pole of the bredth of every mans lott ffronting the said high way to make the sayd way full six pole in breadth: and it is likewise ordered that James Ashton and Jonathan Hulmes shall bee Employed to treat with John bowne about changing of the lott number (14) for the like enlarment."

"Testis: Edw: Tartt: Town Clearke."

"Enlargement of the way wch was the length of some lots viz: number: 12: and number: 13: these above said to Joyne with James Grover for the doing of the same.

"It was likewise ordered and agreed upon: that for as much as the lott in the poplar feild (number 23) considering the badnes of it being throwne up to make good some other lotts: wch said lott did formerly belong to Benjamin Burden: in consideration of wch liberty was this day granted to the said Benjamin to take up the full quantity of 9 acres of upland any where on the common: with in the town shipp provided that the said Benjamin takes it up without the limitts of the Town: beyond the utmost extent of a 160 Rods.

"Testis Edw Tartt Town Clearke."

"February: 11: 1671.—In a legall towne meeting: Ordered The whole quantity of the upland of the lott number: 14: was this day by the present possessor Viz: John Browne: surrendred to the towne: at the second division of land lying about the poplar feild: the towne: upon the surrender (at the request of the said John:) did grant to the said John: Bowne the lott number (15:) of the same division of land: formerly surrendred to the towne by James Grover senior. . . .

"Testis Edw: Tartt."

Six of the Middletown lots, which were laid out as mentioned in the proceeding, and which, in 1699, were owned by Richard Hartshorne, are now embraced in the farm of Dr. Edward Taylor. They were designated as home lots, and contained, respectively, sixteen, ten, thirty-two, sixteen, twenty and sixteen acres, and all were described as bounded on the north by the highway. The original owners of them were Samuel Spicer, Jonathau Holmes, William

Cheeseman, William Bowne, Stephen Arnold and William Laiton. Fifty aeres of other land adjoining James Grover were also owned by him at that time on that side of the King's highway. These lots came to Richard Hartshorne, and were sold by him, December 4, 1699, to William Wilkins. One of the sixteen-acre lots contained the reservation of six rods of ground in the northeast corner for a burying-place.

In the year 1670, and for some time afterwards, during the continuance of the bloody Indian atrocities in New England, which culminated in the general hostilities known as King Philip's War, and ended only with the death of that savage chieftain, the alarm consequent upon those hostilities spread through New York and New Jersey, and was so great in Monmouth and Middlesex Counties that forts or block-houses were built at several points for shelter and defense against savage attacks, the fear of which for a time kept the inhabitants in constant dread and alarm,<sup>1</sup> though it was afterwards found that there had never been any occasion for such fears, and that the Indians in this region had never entertained any hostile intentions towards their white neighbors.

One of these block-houses was built in Middletown village, on the site of the present Episcopal Church. This block-house was used as a jail after the alarm was over. The first jail of

<sup>1</sup> The following, from the old Middletown record, shows something of the alarm which was felt at that time as to danger from Indians:

"SEPTEMBER: 17: 1670.

"The Constable and Overseers with the assistance of the Towne Deputies for the present preservation and safeguard of the Towne doe hereby order and Enact that if any person or persons shall sell or trade any kind of amunition to any Indian or Indians within the liberties of this towne: he or they soe doing shall be liable to pay the forfeiture of five pounds for every such default: wch (after due process made) shall be forthwith levied upon his estate: the one halfe to the informer the other halfe to bee disposed of at the discretion of the court: and this order to stand forcible till further order.

"Testis Edward Tartt, Town Clearke.

"Ordered

"upon Rumors and reports of the Indians Rising in armes: that a watch shall be kept in the towne consisting of six men in one night: and for every defect of not watching by any in the list shall forfeit ten shillings." The night watch was continued in Middletown during the continuance of the Indian alarm.







the county was built on the same site in 1684 and used until 1715. Four negroes—Jeremy, Tom, Mingo and Caesar—were tried for murder, and executed at this place. Mingo was convicted May 29, 1700, and sentenced "to be hung by the neck at the jail in Middletown;" Tom was executed in 1698; Jeremy, for the murder of Lewis Morris of Passage Point (now Black Point, in Shrewsbury), was hung in 1696; and Caesar was hung in 1691 for the murder of Mary Wright.

It is said that these negroes were hung in the wide road in front of the jail on the old block-house site, in Middletown. There is also a tradition that the negro executions took place on the high hill north of the village, a little distance west of the present residence of Charles I. Hendrickson, and on land now owned by Mrs. Dr. Edward Taylor. Which of these statements is correct cannot now be determined. The sentences of two of the negro culprits were that the right hand should be cut off and burned before them; they were then to be hung until dead, and their bodies burned to ashes.

Soon after the settlement of Middletown measures were taken to build a grist-mill. Concerning the site of the mill built at that time even tradition is silent; and nothing is known as to its location, but it is supposed to have stood on the stream that passes a little to the south of the King's highway, and near the toll-house. If it was located there, the stream must have had a much greater volume of water at that time than at present. Reference to the building of this mill is found in the old township records, as follows:

"*Aprill*: 21: 1668 it is mutually agreed by the maior partt of the inhabitants this day assembled to gether in a legall towne meeting: that the full and whole agitation about a mill building bee wholly referred to Richard Gibbins: Richard Stoutt: William Lawrence and Jonathan Hulmes wholly to agitate with Robert Jones: concerning giving and taking land as all, soe in disposing the townes former grant to the said Jones as first 3 hundred gilders in Seawan: 2d the drawing of the whole mass of timber pertaining to his house and mill: 3d and the use of a towne share of land keeping his mill in repaier for the townes use: 4th and ten acres of upland adioyning to the mill 5th: and Helpe to raise the worke when it is framed: 6th and the twelfe bushell tolle: all wch

is granted to the above sayd Jones in consideration of his building a mill and keeping her in repayre for the townes use at the place commonly called and knowne by the natives of the country Choncis sepus. . . .  
"Testis Edward Tartt deputed clerke for that present."

"*Aprill* 23 In a legall towne meeting the maior part beeing present the 4 men viz: Richard Gibbins: Richard Stoutt: William Lawrence and Jonathan Hulmes (to whom the full and whole agitation in the townes be halfe was comitted to agitate with Robert Jones a bout a mill building this day reported to the towne what they had acted with the said Jones the towne upon this report: (owning their actings) did unanimously agree: and further ordered: That all such engagements as have passed under their hands in the towne be halfe to the said Jones shall bee made good by the whole towne.

"Testis Edw: Tartt deputed clerk for that present."

"*July* 22 1668 The lott number 33 with all the appurtenances and priviledges thereunto belonging: together with ten acres of upland adjacent to the mill: both wch are given and granted unto Robert Jones of New Yorke his heires successors or assignes for ever: together with the water streame whereon the mill shall bee sett: for him the said Jones: to have and to hold as his ffree owne land of inheritance: with all and singular priviledges as any of this towne can or may Inioy by any purchase: gift: or grant whatsoever: allwaies provided: that the abovesaid Robert Jones his heires: successors: or assignes doe build: and maintaine a good sufficient mill: and that the above said Jones his heires: successors: or assignes is hereby engaged nott to sell: or give any partt or parsell of the above said land from the mill but that it bee kept intire to it. . . .

"Testis James Grover Towne Clerk."

The "Towne Mill" was built by Robert Jones. In December, 1669, it was in possession of James Grover, as is shown by the following from the township record:

"*December*: 25: 1669 In a legall towne meeting: the maior partt beeing present: This day: James Grover requested of the [town] an enlargement of land to the mill promising to performe the conditions following

"Viz: 1: to manntaine the mill in good repaire to grind the corne for the inhabitants of middleton . . .

"2: to grinde the townes corne before any from other townes if demanded

"3: to grinde the townes corne for the twelfe bushell: tolle:

"4th: to make as good meale for the townes people as is usually made within this province or within the government of New Yorke: provided the corne bee in



good condition to make good meale and having water sufficient :

"5th to keepe the enlargement of lands : granted : and nott to dispose of any partt : or parsell . . . .

"6th to bee bound both him : and his heires for the performance of the above named conditions In consideration of the performance of the above sd conditions the use of 30 acres of upland was by the maior vote : (onely Jonathan Hulmes dissenting) granted to the present posesor of the mill : (James Grover) running 70 rods along by the Runne and soe in bredth up into the woods : toghether with the quantity of two acres of low ground lying upon the northward side of the mill pond

"Testis : Edw : Tartt Town Clearke."

By reference to the account of "lotts laid out," it will be seen that John Ruckman (Ruckman) had No. 1 of "Home Lotts" and Lot No. 3 of the "out lots" or "Poplar field lots." The lots are now occupied by Edwin Beekman and Ezra Osborne; the latter place still bears the name of "Ruckman's Hill."

John Ruekman, Sr., was a great hunter. In his lot was the Cocowder Spring, a favorite stopping-place for the Indians and still famed for its exeellent water. He was buried at the foot of the hill northeast of the spring. The property passed to John Taylor, sheriff of the county, in 1760. He built the Mansion House, now owned by Edwin Beekman. Joseph Taylor, his son, settled upon Ruckman Hill, where, in 1814, he built the house now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Ezra Osborne. On the 10th of June, 1792, John Taylor sold ninety-six aeres, embracing the Taylor mansion (now Beekman's), to George Crawford, then a merchant in Middletown. The old house was remodeled in 1845, retaining, however, many of its old distintive features. In 1833 a daughter of George Crawford married the Rev. Jacob T. B. Beekman, who soon after removed to the house, and whose son still owns it.

The first of the name of Taylor who came to this county was Edward, whose brother Matthew came to this country for the purpose of speculating in lands in New Jersey, under the patronage of Sir George Carteret, one of the proprietors of East Jersey, with whom he was distantly connected by marriage, and dying in New York in 1687, without issue, he bequeathed his lands to his brother Edward, then living in Lon-

don, and who came over in 1692 and purchased an additional tract of about one thousand acres at Garret's Hill, Middletown, and settled on it; he died in 1710, and left four sons and one daughter. George, one of his sons, settled at Garret's Hill, and died there leaving three sons,—George, Edward and John. On the 10th of January, 1716, George Taylor, then living at Garret's Hill, purchased the six lots before mentioned (now the farm of Dr. Edward Taylor) of William Wilkins. They were kept by him until May 1, 1739, when he conveyed them to his son, Edward Taylor, who soon after erected the present house of Dr. Edward Taylor, who is a descendant. John Taylor, known as 'Squire John, was also a son of George Taylor. His daughter Mary married Dr. Absalom Bainbridge, and was the mother of Commodore William Bainbridge, of the United States navy, in the War of 1812. Edward Taylor, to whom the farm was conveyed in 1739, built the present house (now Dr. Taylor's) soon after that time. He was a large land-owner. His possessions at one time extended from near Garret's Hill to the upper bounds of the Middletown village, to the west; northerly to Arrowsmith's Mill (which he originally built), and southerly, beyond Nut Swamp, to the Errickson property.

The John Taylor who was sheriff of the county, and who, about 1760, settled on the Ruckman property (now Beekman and Osborne), was a son of the Edward Taylor of Middletown. Dr. Edward Taylor is in the line of Colonel George Taylor, whose son, Captain Edward, was the father of Dr. Edward Taylor. The family of Taylors that are now living in Upper Freehold are descendants of Joseph and William, sons of Edward Taylor, the first of the name in Monmouth County.

John Wilson, one of the original proprietors of the Middletown lots, took up Lot No. 3, on the south side of the King's highway, and Lot No. 20 of the lots in the "Poplar field." He settled on the lot, and was made a justice of the peace of the township August 22, 1723. His son James was married to Hannah Smith, October 7, 1697, by Peter Tilton, justice. His sons, Joseph and John, are also mentioned in the town-book. The family remained in Middle-







town. William Wilson, one of the family, was born in 1766. He built the tavern in 1797, which was kept by him until his death, and is now the residence of George Bowne, whose wife is a daughter of William Wilson. Her ancestors on her mother's side are descended from William Laiton, who was owner of Lot No. 14 in the original "lots" and Lot No. 30 of the "Poplar field lots."

John Bowne and Richard Stout were of the original lot-owners of Middletown village. The story of the first coming and remarkable adventures of Penelope Stout (Richard's wife) is told in the general history of the county; it is omitted here. His descendants are numerous in the county.

Captain John Bowne (says the Hon. Edwin Salter) came to Middletown, N. J., from Gravesend, L. I. He was one of the twelve men named in the noted Monmouth patent of 1665. He was one of the original settlers of Middletown, and one of the founders of the Baptist Church there—the oldest of that society in the State. Until his death, in the early part of 1684, he seems to have been the most prominent citizen of the county, esteemed for his integrity and ability. He appeared as a deputy to the first Assembly in Carteret's time, which met May 26, 1668, the members of the Lower House then being called "burgesses." He was deputy again 1675, after Philip Carteret's return from England; and in the first legislature under the twenty-four proprietors, 1683, he was a member and Speaker, and acted until the December following. He held other positions of trust. March 12, 1677, a commission was issued to him, as president of the court, to hold a court at Middletown. In December, 1683, shortly before his last illness, he was appointed major of the militia of Monmouth County. He died in the early part of 1684.

Captain Bowne was a large land-owner in this township and in others adjoining. Lands belonging to him on the Highlands were left to Daniel Brown. They embraced a part of Navesink village and Atlantic Highlands.

Other mention of Captain John Bowne will be found in the general history, and in that of Holmdel township.

William Lawrence was from Long Island, and came to this county before 1667, as in that year he selected Lot No. 81 of the Middletown lots and Lot 28 of the Poplar field lots. He was elected constable of the township, but did not serve. He did not live here for any length of time, if at all, but settled on a tract of land on Hop River, where he had a house, an orchard and a fulling-mill. He also owned a large tract of land at Wakake, which he left to his son, Elisha Lawrence, who settled and lived there until 1717, when he moved to Upper Freehold, where he and his family were prominent for many years. His son William settled at Middletown and married Ruth Gibbons, daughter of Richard Gibbons, one of the original settlers, June 24, 1686; the births of his children are all given in the town-book. William Lawrence, the elder, died in 1701, and his will was proved December 3d in that year. His children were William, Joseph, Elisha, John, James and Benjamin. John also went to Upper Freehold. James received by will a part of the home farm on Hop River, including the fulling-mill, which he had been running previously. Later he went to Crosswicks. Joseph settled upon lands on Manasquan beach, which he inherited from his father. Of Benjamin no account is obtained.

In 1685, William Lawrence, Richard Hartshorne, John and Joseph West, Edward Lafetra and others took up two thousand five hundred acres of land on the coast from Wreck Pond to the head of Barnegat Bay, under the name of the Manasquan Beach Company. Their lands were in several cases occupied many years by the descendants of the original purchasers, and by others were sold soon afterwards.

Richard Hartshorne, of whom much is said in connection with Wakake, in Raritan township, and the Highlands of Navesink, bought considerable land on both sides of the King's highway, in the village of Middletown, before 1699. In that year he sold his land on the south of the highway to William Wilkins, who in 1716 sold it to George Taylor. He owned the lands on the north side, and soon after 1703 moved to Middletown and built the house now standing on the north side of the street, near the



Baptist parsonage. In that house he lived until his death, in 1722. In his will, proved May 24th in that year, he gave for a burial-place "a half an acre on the street, in the orchard east of the house where I now live." On this plat of ground he was buried, as were also many of his descendants.

A "General Assembly" held at Portland Point, November, 1668, enacted that, "In consideration of the Inconveniences that do arise for the want of an Ordinary in every Town within this Province: It is ordered that every town shall provide an Ordinary for the Relief and Entertainment of Strangers,—Provided, that the Ordinary keeper is to have a License from the Secretary, and oblige himself to make sufficient Provision of Meat, Drink and Lodging for Strangers; and for Neglect hereof in any of the Towns, they shall forfeit Forty Shillings Fine to the Country for every Month's Default after Publication hereof; and that none shall retail Drink of what sort soever, under the quantity of two Gallons, except the Ordinary keeper; and no person whatsoever (as well the Ordinary keeper as others) shall retaile any sort of Drink as aforesaid under the Quantity of two Gallons, under the Penalty of paying Ten Shillings Fine for every such default, to the country."<sup>1</sup>

In the previous year (October, 1667) the Assembly had enacted: "That no Ordinary keeper shall by the Gill exceed ten shillings and eight pence the Gallon Strong Liquors; if by the Quart two shillings and six pence; good Wine after the Rate of seven shillings the Gallon; Cyder four Pence the Quart; eight Pence a Meal for Victuals; six Pence a Day natural for Pasture for Horse in the Summer and the like for Winter; and nine Pence a Peck for Oats; the Ordinary keeper be left at Liberty for such as will bespeak their own Provision."

In March, 1693, Robert Hamilton was licensed to sell strong drink and keep an inn at Middletown.<sup>2</sup> On March 3, 1716, Isabrant

Van Cleef was licensed to sell strong drink in his house at Middletown, and for one mile around. As this village was at that time the longest settlement in the township, there is no doubt that the taverns were in the village of Middletown, but the locations of them are not known. It is said that a tavern-house was built in 1729 on the site of the hotel now kept by Richard Lufburrow. It was burned in 1809, and another was built on the site, which was kept in 1812 and for many years thereafter by John Truax.

In 1797, William Wilson opened a tavern (now the residence of George Bowne), which he kept until after 1840.

About 1831–32, William Murray built a store opposite Dr. Edward Taylor's present residence, and, with his son, William W. Murray, kept a store there until about twenty years ago. George Crawford sold his store to Aaron and Henry Seabrook, who afterwards sold to Osborne & Burroughs, who continued several years and sold to Wilson Brown, who, about 1835, closed out business and moved to Keyport. About 1820, Charles I. Hendrickson built a store (nearly opposite the present one), which was kept by Hendrickson & Seabrook. The former sold to Seabrook about 1826, who continued for a time and sold to Samuel I. Taylor, who kept for many years and sold to Harvey Conover, who remained there until the building was destroyed by fire. Elias Conover then erected the present brick store, which was occupied by Harvey G. Conover, who sold to Osborne & Thomas. The store is at present kept by Joseph D. Thomas.

William Murray, who was appointed postmaster in 1812, held the office for many years. His successors have been Samuel I. Taylor, H. G. Conover and Joseph D. Thomas, the present postmaster.

THE MIDDLETOWN BAPTIST CHURCH is the

"It is a large township; there is no such thing as Church or Religion amongst them; they are p'haps the most ignorant and wicked People in the world; their meetings on Sundays is at the Publick house, where they get their fill of Rum and go to fighting and running of races, which are practices much in use that day all the Province over."

<sup>1</sup> Leaming and Spicer, page 87.

<sup>2</sup> In 1700, Lewis Morris, then president of the Council, addressed a letter to the bishop of London, describing the condition of the colonies of East Jersey. Of Middletown he says,—





oldest church of that denomination in the State of New Jersey, and was constituted in 1668 by the following-named persons, all of whom were of the Monmouth patentees: Richard Stout, John Stout, James Grover, Jonathan Brown, Obadiah Holmes, John Ruckman, William Cheeseman, John Wilson, Walter Wall, John Cox, Jonathan Holmes, George Mount, William Layton, William Compton, James Ashton, John Bowne, Thomas Whitlock, James Grover, Jr.

It is stated by Morgan Edwards, in his "History" of the Baptists, written in 1792, that "The first who preached at Middletown was Mr. John Bown, of whom we can learn no more than he was not ordained, and that it was he who gave the lot on which the first meeting-house was built. Contemporary with him was Mr. Ashton." It will be noticed that the name of James Ashton appears among the constituent members. He was one of the original settlers of the village of Middletown, and had No. 23 of "Home Lotts," and Lot No. 8 of Poplar fields, in the first division, December 30, 1667. The records of Middletown have the following mention of him:

"May the 25th, 1669, James Ashton: Jonathan Hulmes: James Bowne were this day by the pluralities of votes chosen deputies to act with the patentees at the generall courtt or the adiourments thereof to bee held at Portland point the 27 of May

"Testis Edw: Tarrt Town Cleark"

"January: 1: 1672

"In a legall towne meeting the maior partt beeing present . . . The summons under hand: and seale of the province (bearing date the tenth of December 1672) for choice of Deputies or representatives was this day read in open towne meeting upon wch the towne resulted to answer the summons and further concluded: that: (acording to the directions of the summons) a true certificate of the choice beeing an exact of the Record: shall bee forth with sent to the Governour: : wch is as followeth . . . A legall vote this Day passing: William Lawrence and James Ashton were this day (by the pluraliter of votes) chosen Deputies or Representatives for this following yeare."

"August: 26: 1673: Stilo novo

Upon receipt of an order: from the commanders in cheife and counsell of warre: Resident in fort William Hendrick at New Orange: (for choice of six persons being Inhabitants of the towne to bee presented

to the comandars as above sd: to take three for towne maiestrates) as alsoe for choice of two Deputies to act at woodbridge (acording to the tennor of the above said order) the towne: this day convented toghether for election: and upon perfect vote the choice was as followeth—John Bowne Jonathan Hulmes James Asten John Throcmorton Edward Smith: James Grover were by the pluraliter of votes Chosen maiestrates according to the tennor of the order . . . Ed: Smith and Edward Tarrt were chosen Deputies to act at woodbridge Acording to the tennor of the above sd order"

"midelltowne the first of January 1675

"At a legall towne metting Johnathan Holmes and James Ashton was by the maior vote chosen debities to meet the governor and counsell on the 4th of Aprill next enseuing at Elizebeth towne to consult and conclude of such thinges as shall be found nessary

"Testis Richard Hartshorne Towne clarke."

These extracts show that James Ashton was a man of influence in the township, and he was probably ordained a minister. James Ashton, Jr., is mentioned September 25, 1693, in the records, and was then of age. From the records of Upper Freehold is extracted the following, which indicates that James Ashton, the settler, and the Rev. James Ashton were one and the same person. "James Ashton, son of Rev. James Ashton, of Middletown, was the first settler in this part of the country, viz.: Crosswicks."

James Ashton was probably ordained in 1688, at the time the church was recognized. The Rev. Thomas Killingsworth assisted in the services at that time. It is probable that Ashton died before the meeting of the council hereafter mentioned, as his name does not appear in the list of signers or non-signers on that occasion. Morgan Edwards says,—

"But in the year 1711 a variance arose in the church, insomuch that one party excommunicated the other and imposed silence on two gifted brothers that preached to them,—viz., John Bray and John Okison. Wearied with their situation, they agreed to refer matters to a council congregated from neighboring churches. The council met May 12, 1712. It consisted of Rev. Messrs. Timothy Brooks, of Cohansey; Abel Morgan<sup>1</sup> and Joseph Wood, of Pennecpek;

<sup>1</sup> The Abel Morgan here mentioned as a member of the council held in 1712 was not the person of the same name who afterwards became pastor of this church, the latter having been born in 1713. The Rev. Abel Morgan, Sr., was born in Cardiganshire, Wales, about the year 1673.



and Elisha Thomas, of Welsh Tract; with six elders, —viz., Nicholas Johnson, James James, Griffith Mills, Edward Church, William Bettridge and John Mannors. Their advice was, 'To bury the proceedings in oblivion and erase the records of them;' accordingly four leaves are torn out of the church-book.<sup>1</sup> 'To continue the silence imposed on John Bray and John Okison the preceding year.' One would think by this that these two brethren were the cause of the disturbance. 'To sign a covenant relative to their future conduct;' accordingly forty-two did sign and twenty-six refused; nevertheless most of the non-signers came in afterwards; but the first forty-two were declared to be the church that should be owned by sister churches. 'That Messrs. Abel Morgan, Sen., and John Burrows should supply the pulpit till the next yearly meeting, and the members should keep their places and not wander to other societies,' for at this time there was a Presbyterian congregation at Middletown and mixed communion in vogue."

The successor of the Rev. James Ashton was the Rev. John Burrows, of whom Edwards says,—

"He was born at Taunton, in Somerset, and there ordained; arrived in Philadelphia in the month of November, 1711, and from thence came to Middletown in 1713, where he died in a good old age. He left but one child behind him, and she married into the Russel family. Mr. Burrows is said to have been a happy compound of gravity and facetiousness: the one made the people stand in awe of him, while the other produced familiarity. As he was travelling one day a young man passed by him in full speed; and, in passing, Mr. Burrows said, 'If you consider whither you are going you would slacken your pace.' He went on; but presently turned back to enquire into the meaning of that passing salute. Mr. Burrows reasoned with him on the folly and danger of horse-racing (to which the youth was hastening): he gave attention to the reproof. This encouraged Mr. Burrows to proceed to more serious matters. The issue was a sound conversion. Here was a bow drawn at a venture; and a sinner shot flying! Mr. Burrows's successor was Rev. Abel Morgan, A.M. He was born in Welshttract, Apr. 18, 1713: had his learning at an

academy kept by Rev. Thomas Evans, in Pencader: ordained at Welshttract church in the year 1734: became pastor of Middletown in 1738: died there Nov. 24, 1785. He was never married: the reason (it is supposed) was that none of his attention and attendance might be taken off of his mother, who lived with him, and whom he honoured to an uncommon degree. Mr. Morgan was a man of sound learning and solid judgment. He has given specimens of both in his public disputes and publications on the subject of baptism: at Kingwood, Rev. Samuel Harker challenged him on the subject. The other dispute was at Cape-may in 1743. The occasion was as follows: about 1712 there was at the Cape a remarkable stir of the religious kind: this stir was owing partly to the preaching of Baptist ministers and partly to the labours of Presbyterian ministers of the *new light* order: but some of the one party's converts joining the other party caused a howling among the losing shepherds, and issued in a public challenge: Mr. Morgan accepted the challenge:—his antagonist was Rev. (afterwards Dr.) Samuel Finley, the contest ended as usual, viz. in double triumph: but two things happened to mar the glory of the day; one was a remark that a stander by was heard to make: he was a deist and therefore a disinterested person: 'The little man [said he] is thrown down, and his antagonist will not let him rise for another tussle.' Another damper was that an elder and deacon, &c., were convinced that the cause of the one party was naught by the labours used to support it."

In the old church-book is the following record, made at the time of Mr. Morgan's death:

"The Rever'd Mr. Abel Morgan was born in the State of Delaware, April the 18th, 1713. He departed this life November the 24th, 1785, near 6 o'clock in the afternoon, in the towship of Middletown, county of Monmouth, State of New Jersey.

"After five months' sore and tedious afflictions of several bodily disorders, this eminent servant of God and faithful minister of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ gave up the Ghost. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 'O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?' (1 Cor. 15: 55.) 'Say ye to the Righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.' (Isa. 3: 10.)

"This great man died in the 73d year of his age. His age in particular was 72 years, seven months and six days. In his public ministry he was faithful, great and engaged in the service of his Lord and Master; in his private life a kind friend to the poor, a great advocate for the oppressed, a father to the fatherless, agreeable in his life and conversation. Upon the whole we may say this in truth of him,—he was an example of examples.

When he was nineteen years of age he began to preach and was ordained at Blaenewgent, in Monmouthshire. He was a brother of Enoch Morgan, of the Welsh Tract Church, and half-brother of Benjamin Griffith, of Montgomery Church. He was a son of the renowned Morgan of Rhyddard of Griffyd of Dafydd. He came to America in February, 1711, and preached alternately at Pennepek, Pa., and Philadelphia. He died December 16, 1722, aged forty-nine years, having served the Pennepek Church continuously from the time of his arrival in America.

<sup>1</sup> The church-book is in possession of the pastor.







"Fifty-one years of the Rever'd Mr. Abel Morgan's life were spent in the public ministry; forty-seven years of his lifetime he was minister of the Church at Middletown. He was called early in life to that sacred function.

"'One that feared God and eschewed evil.' (Job 1:1.) Further, David saith: 'Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law doth he meditate day and night.' (Ps. 1:1.)

"The Rever'd Mr. Abel Morgan's funeral sermon was preached on Sunday, the 27th day of November, in the meeting-house, in Middletown, by Mr. Peter Wilson, from the 4th chapter of the 2d Epistle to Timothy, 7th and 8th verses. 'I have fought a good fight,' &c. (both verses quoted).

"After sermon, the body of the Rever'd Mr. Abel Morgan was decently buried before a respectable number of people in the Presbyterian yard, in Middletown."

The "yard" referred to lies on the south side of the broad street running through the village, in the northeast corner of Dr. Edward Taylor's farm, and adjoining Mrs. Adeline Hendrickson's on the west. Here, among the old graves, a plain slab of marble marks the last resting-place of this man of God. The inscription on the stone is a whole volume:

"In memory of Abel Morgan, pastor of the Baptist church at Middletown, who departed this life November 24, 1785, in the 73d year of his age. His life was blameless, his ministry was powerful; he was a burning and shining light, and his memory is dear to the saints."

The Rev. E. J. Foote, a former pastor of the church, in an article on Mr. Morgan, says,—

"He was a strong man in this regard, so considered by his co-workers. The Middletown Church held its associational connection with the churches in and about Philadelphia; was one of the five churches which formed that association in 1707. There were able men in that body in Mr. Morgan's day, but the Middletown pastor seemed to be looked up to, and often to be put forward to preach the annual sermons and give the address on important occasions. In a printed volume of the minutes of the Philadelphia Association for the first hundred years, Mr. Morgan is seen to be one of the leading men of his denomination. His papers are sound in doctrine, clear and logical. He was often elected to fill the offices of the body, and particularly in the later years of his ministry does he seem to have been more highly honored by his brethren.

"Mr. Morgan was a strong defender and an earnest propagator of the doctrines of his denomination. At one time he held a discussion for two days on the subject of baptism, at Kingwood, with the Rev. Samuel Harker. At another time he had a long controversy at Cape May with Rev. Samuel Finley, afterward president of Princeton College. This controversy was of Mr. Finley's seeking, he proposing to Mr. Morgan a public debate, each preaching a sermon alternately. It was a spirited discussion, lasting some days, and was finally transferred to the press. On Mr. Morgan's side the discussion grew into two volumes, the second of which we have in his library, which he gave to the church. The perusal of these works shows a strong and logical mind, a cultivated talent for writing and a clear grasp of Scripture truth. As a matter of course, the friends of each disputant claimed the victory, but Mr. Edwards reports the remarks of a 'stander by,' a Mr. Leman, 'a deist and therefore a disinterested person.' 'The little man (said he) is thrown down, and his antagonist will not let him rise for another tussle.' Mr. Finley was the little man. An elder and a deacon of Mr. Finley's were convinced and went over to Mr. Morgan's side. It was one of the notable discussions of the day. Mr. Morgan's books were printed by Benjamin Franklin and D. Hall, in Market Street, Philadelphia, 1750."

"Mr. Morgan was an ardent patriot in the times of our Revolution. There were many Tories in this part of the State; some in his church, as the records show, but there was no double-face nor dough-face in the preacher. His sermons, which are still preserved, show this,—on Dec. 18, 1777, he preached from Hosea x. 12: 'It is time to seek the Lord.' Among the reasons presented why it was time to seek the Lord was the 'Dispersion among the churches occasioned by the enemy's coming in among them, of discord and contention among neighbors, relations and people, of war in our land, our bleeding, weeping land.' This was preached 'on a day of humiliation appointed by the Continental Congress on account of the war, and also to give thanks to God for victory over the enemy.'

"In a sermon preached Mar. 15, 1778, speaking of God as delivering from imminent dangers and death, he says,—'Such as in this town from our combined enemies; in this continent by the defeat and imprisonment of a whole division of an army with their General, Burgoyne; a most remarkable escape from death.'

"May 28, 1778, he preached 'in a funeral of a young man, John Pierce, who was slain by the enemy.' And May 29th, 1778, 'in a funeral of Leonard Hoffé, slain by the enemy murderously.' 'June 22, 1778, at the Court-House, in Freehold, at the request of some prisoners, I preached to eight under the sentence of death—a moving sight.'<sup>1</sup> Text—1 Timothy 1: 15.

<sup>1</sup>Two or three days after this, on intelligence being re-



On June 28th, 1778, Mr. Morgan preached from Ps. 62: 8,—‘Trust in Him at all times.’ This was the day the battle of Monmouth was fought, and probably the roar of cannon was heard during the services. Mr. Morgan made this record on the sermon,—‘At Middletown, the very day the English army came into the neighborhood in the evening.’ It was a sermon to inspire hope and trust in God; what those who heard needed most to hear at that time, for doubtless their sons and husbands, brothers and fathers were on the fields where those cannon were booming.

‘The enemy came into the village in the evening of that Sabbath; pouring down Ruckman’s Hill, where are now the Osborn and the Beekman mansions. On July 5, 1778, the next Sabbath, Mr. Morgan made this record,—‘There was no meeting on this Lord’s day, because of the enemy passing thro’ our town the week past, putting all in confusion by their ravaging and plundering wherever they went.’ On July 19, 1778, he preached from Ezra 9: 13-14,—‘And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds,’ &c.,—and puts this note upon his MSS.,—‘At Middletown, in mine own barn, because the enemy had took out all the seats in the meeting-house in town.’ He preached twice in ‘mine own barn’ that day, from the same text. From this he preached in several places up to Aug. 16, 1778, when again he preached in his barn. Aug. 30th, he preached in the meeting-house, after which there is no further reference to war disturbances.

‘At an earlier date we find some references to the French war in which England was engaged, in which Mr. Morgan shows his loyalty to the Crown. We give these two: ‘Nov. 22, 1759, at Middletown, on a day of thanksgiving appointed by his Excellency, Francis Bernard, Esq., through the Province on account of the success given to His Majesty’s arms, &c.’ ‘Mar. 23, 1760, at Middletown, on a day of Thanksgiving appointed by our Governor, by order from our King George, on account of successes by sea and by land.’

‘Abel Morgan preached the truth of God all over this part of New Jersey, and a hundred years after he has gone his power for good is felt. At Middletown, Frechold, Crosswicks, Holmdel, Middletown Point, Chessequakes, Pisectaway, Bordentown, Englishtown, Hightstown, Shrewsbury and many other places, and in many private houses did he preach the Word, as the records on his sermons show. He scattered the good seed with a wide hand. He preached on his journeys where he stopped for the night, or would spend a few days and preach several times.

ceived of the approach of the British army from Philadelphia, the prisoners here referred to were hastily removed by Sheriff Nicholas Van Brunt from Monmouth Court-House to the jail of Morris County. After the battle of Monmouth they were brought back, and some or all of them were executed near the court-house.

When he had been forty years at Middletown, he had preached 4493 times, as the number on his MSS. shows, an average of nearly 110 sermons a year for the whole time.

‘Mr. Morgan was never married. His mother, for whom he cherished great love and reverence, kept his house till she died, at an advanced age. He owned his own home, situated, as it is understood, near the residence of Mr. William Conover, son of Colonel Elias Conover, about one mile from the church.’ At his death Mr. Morgan willed all his property, his library, sermons, &c., to the church which he had served so long and so faithfully. The house and grounds were sold after a time for one hundred and fifty pounds, and this was all he had saved for himself in a lifetime.

‘In his feebleness and old age the church cared for him. In the old records of the church we find this: ‘Agreed, there should be a man hired at the expense of the said church members, for one, two or three months, as the occasion may require, for the benefit and service of the Rev. Mr. Abel Morgan, in his infirm and low state of body, and the expense of wages for the hire of said man so employed shall be levied on each member according to their estate.’

‘Of the last days of this eminent servant of God we have no further account than that he ‘departed this life November 24, 1785, near 6 o’clock in the afternoon, in the Township of Middletown, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey.’”

The Rev. Mr. Morgan left his library and sermons to the church, which still has them in its possession. The library contains many rare and curious books, the oldest of which was printed in 1574. The sermons are rather notes of sermons, and are written on paper the size of foolscap. They are all carefully preserved in the library of the parsonage.

The Rev. Abel Morgan was succeeded by his nephew, the Rev. Samuel Morgan. He was born in Welsh Traet August 23, 1750; called to the ministry in Virginia; ordained at Middletown November 29, 1785, at which time he took on him the care of the church. No account of Mr. Morgan’s death or resignation has been obtained.

He was, however, succeeded by the Rev. Benjamin Bennett before 1793, as in that year the church was incorporated under an act of Assembly, passed March 16, 1786, under the

<sup>1</sup>The old house of the Rev. Abel Morgan is now the parsonage of St. Mary’s Catholic Church of New Monmouth.





name of "The Baptist Church of Middletown." The following are the names signed to the certificate, June 20, 1793, followed by the record of the election of trustees :

Richard Crawford,	Anthony Smith,
John Stillwell,	John Smock,
Samuel Ogborne,	John Walling,
William Blair,	Joseph Stillwell,
Rebecca Stillwell,	James Bowne,
Anna Chascy,	Cornelia Dennis,
Sarah Bostwick,	Mary Holmes,
Samuel Bray,	Obadiah Holmes,
James Patterson,	Jacob Covenhoven,
Daniel Ketcham,	Phoebe Ketcham,
Jonathan Stout,	James Walling,
Asher Holmes,	Joseph Brown,
Cornelius Hulshart,	William Morford,
William Green,	Cornel's Hulshart, Jr.,
James Grover,	Thomas Jeffreys,
Jehu Patterson,	Thomas Stillwell,
George Hunt,	Benjamin Hulshart,
Thomas Burrows,	Benjamin Bennett,
David Burge,	John Bowne,
Daniel Hill,	Silvester Applegate,
Phillip Walling,	John Wall,
John Taylor,	Daniel Hendrickson.

"This is to certify that at a meeting of a number of signers for the incorporating the Baptist Church at Middletown, of which Benjamin Bennett is pastor, we, the following persons, were chosen as trustees for said church, to wit: John Smock, Jacob Covenhoven, Joseph Stillwell, William Blair, John Stillwell, Jonathan Stout, and Daniel Ketcham, of whom Joseph Stillwell was by the others chosen president; and having taken the oaths necessary as the law directs, and taken upon us the name of the trustees for the Baptist Church at Middletown, with the seal marked M. B. C., do request the same to be recorded as the law in that case directs. As witness our hands and seals, the 16th day of December 1793.

Signed, "JOHN SMOCK, [L.S.]  
 "JACOB COVENHOVEN, [L.S.]  
 "JOSEPH STILLWELL, [L.S.]  
 "WILLIAM BLAIR, [L.S.]  
 "JOHN STILLWELL, [L.S.]  
 "JONATHAN STOUT, [L.S.]  
 "DANIEL KETCHAM. [L.S.]"

The Rev. Benjamin Bennett was succeeded about 1818 by the Rev. — King, who, in 1823, was followed by the Rev. Thomas Roberts, who served the church with fidelity until 1837, when the Rev. D. B. Stout became pastor. He remained pastor until his death, in 1871. He was buried in the graveyard adjoining the church.

In 1876 the Rev. E. J. Foote accepted a call to the pastorate, and served until April 1, 1883. The present pastor, the Rev. F. A. Douglas, was installed December 20, 1883. The church has a membership of two hundred.

The church, according to Morgan Edwards, met first in a private house belonging to John Stout, one of the first settlers; "but it does not seem as if they held worship there longer than while a public place was in building; for when the first house was taken down, in 1734, the timber was rotten, and therefore old; and there were but sixty-seven years between the beginning of the settlement and the taking down of that house." The lot on which it was situated was a part of the present lot. On April 27, 1734, Robert Hartshorne deeded to the church, as a gift, nineteen hundred and ninety-eight square feet of land adjoining, and on this lot, in that year, the congregation erected a house of worship thirty-two by forty-two feet in size, which was used until 1832, when the present house of worship was built.

CHRIST CHURCH (Episcopal) of Middletown and Christ Church of Shrewsbury are so closely connected in their early annals that the history of the latter (in Shrewsbury) has been written to include that of the Middletown Church until 1854, up to which time the two were, in fact, identical.

At the time of the division of church property, in 1855, the Rev. Harry Finch was the rector. The Middletown Church received as its portion a part of the large farm<sup>1</sup> on Swimming River, which was left to the two churches by William Leeds in 1735. Upon the formation of this church into a separate parish the Rev. Charles Woodward became the minister and missionary. The Rev. Eli Wheeler began labor as minister

<sup>1</sup> By an act passed May 2, 1854, to divide the farm property of Christ Church of Shrewsbury and Middletown, embracing four hundred and thirty-eight acres of land, mostly in Middletown, George House, Peter R. Smock and John B. Crawford were appointed commissioners to divide the property. Each took title to their church lot and edifice, and the farm was divided nearly equally, Christ Church of Middletown taking that portion of the farm lying west of the road leading from Leedsville southward into Atlantic township.



on Easter Sunday, 1858, and resigned October 1, 1859. The Rev. William N. Dunnell was called to be the rector in 1859, and began his labor April 1, 1860, and served ten years. He was succeeded in July, 1871, by the Rev. Peter M. Jaques, who remained two years. The Rev. C. M. Parkman became rector early in 1874 and resigned April 1, 1877. The Rev. Samuel Edson became the rector, and occupied the pulpit for the first time on Easter Sunday in 1878. He continued until succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. Joseph T. Jowitt, in September, 1882. The church has at present but twelve members.

The first mention of Episcopal Church service in Middletown is in "George Keith's Journal." On the 17th of June, 1702, he visited Middletown and preached a sermon on "Infant Baptism," and the Rev. John Talbot, a missionary who came to this country with him, read prayers. He says most of the audience were Anabaptists.

The Rev. Alexander Innes became a resident of Middletown before 1693, and after the departure of George Keith he preached occasionally to the churches in the vicinity. He gave ten acres of land, on which the Episcopal Church now stands, and by his will he left five pounds each to the churches at which he preached.

The Rev. Thomas Thompson, who came here as a missionary in 1745, says of the church buildings in the county,—

"As to the church buildings, I have found them all much out of condition, especially the church at Middletown, which was begun to be built but the year before I came there, and had nothing done on the inside, not even a floor laid. So that we had no place for the present to assemble in Divine worship, only an old house which had formerly been a meeting-house.

"In the year 1746 the church at Middletown, which had stood useless, being, as I have before mentioned, only a shell of a building, had now a floor laid and was otherwise made fit to have divine worship performed in it. The congregation of this church was but small, and as the service could not be oftener than once a month, it was morally impossible to increase the number much, especially as there was a weekly meeting of Anabaptists in that town, so that it was the most I could propose to prevent those that were of the church from being drawn away by dissenters."

This church was used, with repairs, until 1835. It was rebuilt in that year, and consecrated January 19, 1836, by the Right Rev. Bishop Doane, assisted by the Rev. George E. Hare. The church building is still in use, and the parish is in charge of Trinity Episcopal Church of Red Bank.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MIDDLETOWN had its commencement before 1706, and a church edifice was soon after erected on the old Presbyterian burying-ground lot. The congregation was under the care of the Rev. John Boyd, of the Scots Church (now Tennent). He was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph Morgan, in 1710, who preached here until 1728. It is stated that the church edifice in Mr. Morgan's time was an old, dilapidated building, even then abandoned and left to decay. Its neglected condition annoyed him, and when riding by, if he saw the door or window open, he would stop, and, dismounting his horse, reverently close the open door or window before proceeding on his way. It was repaired under the Rev. Samuel Dennis, who took charge of the church in 1738. In September of that year, Shrewsbury and Middletown Presbyterian Churches called the Rev. Samuel Blair, who remained until September 5, 1739. From that time they were without a pastor until May, 1761, when the Rev. Elihu Speneer, D.D., became pastor and remained until May, 1764.

In March, 1767, the Rev. Charles McKnight who was pastor of the church at Allentown, was called to the pastorate. The churches under this charge at that time were Middletown, Shrewsbury, Shark River and Middletown Point, at each of which places a church edifice was built. Rev. Dr. McKnight remained in charge of the churches until his death, in 1778. He lived at Middletown and served his several churches from there. While visiting the Middletown Point Church, in 1777, a party of British troops, led by Lieutenant Moody, attacked the place, burned the church and made the pastor and others prisoners. They were taken to New York and confined in a prison-ship, where Mr. McKnight was kept for some time, and then released. His sufferings while a





prisoner caused his death soon after his release. He was a native of the north of Ireland, and became a prominent friend of American liberty. His son, Dr. Charles McKnight, was a surgeon in the army, and his son Robert was a captain. In the Trinity Churchyard, in New York City, is a tablet bearing this inscription,—

“To the memory of the Rev. Charles McKnight, for many years a beloved pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Monmouth County, New Jersey. He departed this life January 1, 1778.”

After the death of Mr. McKnight the Middletown Presbyterian congregation became dispersed. Morgan Edwards, in his “History of the Baptists of New Jersey,” says of this place, in May, 1790,—“The Presbyterian congregation is broken up, and their house is converted to another use.” This is the end of the history of the ancient Presbyterian Church at Middletown.

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF MIDDLETOWN was organized July 4, 1836, from members chiefly of the Reformed Church of Holmdel. A meeting of citizens friendly to the erection of a Reformed Church in Middletown was held at the public-house of William Wilson, February 25, 1836, and resolved to build a house of worship forty by forty-seven feet in size. The lot on which the school-house at that time stood, on the King’s Highway, was purchased, and the corner-stone of a church was laid in June of the same year. The Rev. Abram Messler, of Somerville, delivered the address. The church was dedicated December 9, 1836, the Rev. Jacob T. B. Beekman officiating. The church was organized in the preceding July, at which time John Harris, John C. Lyster and Robert P. Morris were chosen elders, and James C. Robinson, Frederick Dorset and Peter Lyster were elected deacons. The consistory offered the pews of the church for sale December 14, 1836. The church was remodeled in 1880. The present parsonage was built in 1873.

The Rev. Jacob T. B. Beekman, residing here, became a supply of the church until 1839. In September of that year John B. Crawford, a recent graduate of the Reformed Dutch Seminary of New Brunswick, was called to the

pastorate, and began his labors November 16, 1839, and closed them in 1841. The Rev. Alexander C. Millsbaugh was called December 7, 1841, was ordained on the 15th, and served until March 31, 1866. The Rev. George Seibert was called May 31, 1866, ordained August 12th, in the same year, and resigned January 8, 1873, preaching his last sermon March 2d, following. The Rev. Luther Van Doren was called August 9, 1873, became pastor, and remained in service until his death, in October, 1876. The church was then served by supplies for a short time. On the 21st of March, 1877, the Rev. Charles D. Buck, D.D., the present pastor, was called, accepted and was installed May 21st following. The church has a present membership of eighty.

The early physicians practicing in Middletown and vicinity were Dr. Jacobus Hubbard, of Tinton Falls, and Dr. Edward Allen, of Shrewsbury. Dr. Edward Taylor, a descendant of the George Taylor who purchased land where Dr. Taylor now lives, studied medicine in New Brunswick, and began practice in his native place in 1826, and continued until about 1874, when he retired, and is still living on the old homestead. His son, Dr. Edward F. Taylor, a graduate of the Medical Department of the university, located in Middletown in 1852, and is still in practice there.

In 1812 Middletown village contained two stores, a post-office, two taverns, the Baptist Church and Christ Church of the Episcopalians. William Murray was keeping a store on what is now a vacant lot, opposite the parsonage of the Reformed Church. He was appointed postmaster January 22d in that year, and kept the office in the store. George Crawford, who was keeping store in 1792, was still keeping it in 1812 in the store near his residence (now Edwin Beekman’s).

The Highlands of Navesink are embraced in the Indian purchase which was made by John Bowne, Richard Stout and others in the winter of 1663-64, as has been more fully noticed in the chapter on Settlements and Land Titles. That purchase was of the “three neckes of land,”



which the natives called Newasink, Navarum-sunk and Pootapeek. To the purchasers of these Indian lands Governor Richard Nicolls, in 1665, granted the Monmouth patent, covering the same lands, and a great area of territory besides,—embracing nearly all of the present county of Monmouth. Afterwards the proprietors of East Jersey granted the lands to the patentees, ignoring the title of the Monmouth patent. Richard Hartshorne came to New Jersey from London in September, 1669, and made his first purchase of land at and on the "Weikee" (Wakake) Creek, and built a house, and resided there until the year 1700, as is shown in various affidavits and official records. In an affidavit dated December 26, 1670, he says: "I, Richard Hartshorne, of Weikee," etc. November 25, 1672, "William Goulding, of Graves End and Richard Hartshorne, of Weikee," came before Edward Tarrt, town clerk, and declared their consent to the recording of a certain deed.

The proprietors granted William Lawrence, December 22, 1700, ten acres of land on the east side of Wakake Creek, bounded by the creek and land of Richard Hartshorne, and "fifteen aeres of unappropriated sedge and meadow on ye east side of said creek from Hartshorne's residence to ye mouth of ye creek. . . ."

Mr. Hartshorne had been in possession of the Highlands from about 1670, and a house was upon the land in 1687, as in a road record dated March 2d in that year mention is made of the road as passing "through Richard Hartshorne's land, as the way now goes, to his house, and thence to the most northerly point of Sandy Hook." Mr. Hartshorne came to the possession of the Highlands by patent from the proprietors, with an additional grant of five hundred acres of land, also from the proprietors. The large tract contained two thousand three hundred and twenty acres, including Sandy Hook.

In an affidavit, made by Hartshorne in 1716, he says he was seventy-five years of age, by which it would appear he was born about 1641, and about twenty-eight years old when he came here. He was appointed high sheriff of Mon-

mouth County in 1683, but declined the office. He held various positions of trust in the county,—was deputy for several years, Speaker in 1686, a member of the Council in 1684, 1698-99, etc. In the minutes of the General Assembly, pages 122-123, it is stated that Governor Dongan, of New York, issued a writ, addressed to the authorities of New Jersey, ordering the arrest of Richard Hartshorne, then Speaker, and that he be taken to New York for trial, which the Council refused to execute. What was the offense charged against him is not stated.

In the year 1703, Richard Hartshorne made a deed of gift of the Highlands estate, including Sandy Hook, to his son, William, who lived at the place now called Portland. After this transfer Richard Hartshorne moved to Middletown village, where he had purchased lots at different times from May 24, 1670, and resided in the house, now standing, adjoining the Baptist Church parsonage. He lived in the house until his death, in 1722, and was buried in the burial-ground adjoining the house, and which he had set apart for that purpose. William, his son, lived at Portland until his death, in 1748, and left the Highlands estate mostly to his sons, Robert and Esek. John, another son, was left two hundred acres on Claypit Creek and Navesink River (which are now occupied by the Misses Hartshorne, who are descendants of Richard), also a large tract of land in Rumson Neck. The Highlands estate of Hartshorne remained intact until 1762, when Esek released to Robert all his title to lands south of a line drawn east and west through the Highlands, making each tract about seven hundred and forty-seven acres, and each retaining a half-interest in Sandy Hook. The property of Robert (being the south part) lies on Navesink River. It was kept by him until his death, in 1801. His son Richard, born in 1765, came to the estate of his father, and lived at Portland until his death, in 1831. His son, Robert, born in 1798, also lived at Portland till his death in 1877. The property is now owned by his sons,—Benjamin M. Hartshorne and Edward Hartshorne, of Portland.

The north part of the Highlands estate of Esek Hartshorne was sold by his executors,





June 8, 1797, to Tylee Williams, including an undivided half-interest in Sandy Hook, the whole being about eight hundred acres. The south part of this tract, containing one hundred and seventy acres, came to the possession of Nimrod Woodward before 1812. His executors sold it, in 1830, to Peter W. Schenck. On the same date the west part was sold to James Patterson. A portion was still retained by the family, and is now the eastern part of the Atlantic Highlands.

On Navesink River, near Portland, is the club-house of the Neptune Club, of New York. The club was chartered in 1858, and erected a house on land of Benjamin M. Hartshorne. They number forty members.

The first settlement on the east side of what is now the Highlands of Navesink was made by Nimrod Woodward, who built a hotel there before 1812. It was kept by him and his family until March, 1830, when Peter W. Schenck bought the farm (consisting of one hundred and seventy acres) of the executors of Woodward. Peter W. Schenck was a son of William Schenck, who served in the Revolutionary War, after which he settled temporarily at Middletown Point, and was then appointed keeper of the Sandy Hook light-house, which position he retained until his death.<sup>1</sup> Peter, his son, had charge of the grounds from that time until 1831, when he removed to this place and kept the hotel. In 1841 he enlarged it and remained there until 1849, when Joseph I. Thompson rented it and conducted it until 1851, when he purchased eight acres of land south of the hotel, and on it erected the Atlantic Pavilion, of which he is still the proprietor.

On the 18th of February, 1830, an act of the Legislature was approved incorporating the Monmouth Steamboat Company, with a capital of twenty thousand dollars. The corporators were Martin Chandler, Peter W. Schenck, Joseph King, Thomas L. Parker and Jeremiah Chandler. The steamboat "Saratoga" was

built and run by Captain Joseph King between New York and Sandy Hook and the Highlands, at what is now Highland Bridge. The hotel was then owned by Woodward, and the next year was bought by Peter W. Schenck. The boat ran for several years.

In 1865, when the sea-shore railroad was built on the Sandy Hook peninsula, a ferry was established across the river by James Schenck, and was continued until the bridge was completed in 1872. A small steamboat was also used in the summer season.

A dock was built by Peter W. Schenck, in 1834, in front of the East View House and south of the present bridge. It was washed away and rebuilt by the government in 1846. This afterwards shared the fate of the first, and since then has not been rebuilt. After the death of Peter W. Schenck the business was conducted by his son, Peter F. Schenck, until 1859. The hotel (now the East View House) passed to his mother, Mrs. Sarah A. Schenck. It is still kept as a hotel.

In 1852 a post-office was established at the Highlands, with Peter F. Schenck as postmaster. It was not continued over two years, but was restored about 1872, with Charles Van Berner as postmaster. He was succeeded by Mortimer Johnson, and on February 13, 1882, the present postmaster, J. H. Brainerd, was appointed.

The Sea View House, owned by Mrs. Jarvis, was erected between the East View House and the Atlantic Pavilion. At this house James P. Donnelly murdered Albert S. Moses, on the 1st of August, 1857, for which he was hung at Freehold January 8, 1858.

In 1879, Benjamin M. Hartshorne built on the shore the Swift House, which was kept by Thomas Swift. It was destroyed by fire January 26, 1884, and rebuilt by Thomas Swift, who is the present proprietor.

The Highland Bridge Company was incorporated in 1871, and erected a drawbridge across the Navesink River at this place, fourteen hundred and fifty-two feet in length, eighteen feet in width, with a draw of one hundred and eighty-six feet. The cost of the structure was thirty-five thousand dollars. It

<sup>1</sup>Peter W. Schenck was the pioneer in the wrecking business on this and Long Island coast, and had control of it for many years. He and his brother, Henry, took off over sixty square rigged vessels and forty schooners and sloops.



was formally opened December 5, 1872, and continued in use until July 1, 1875, when a schooner ran into the draw and disabled it. The bridge remained in this condition three years, and was then sold on foreclosure. The Navesink Bridge Company was formed, bought the bridge, repaired the draw, making it one hundred and ninety-four feet in length, and opened it for travel June 27, 1878.

The Jackson Club have a building on the coast on a small plot of ground purchased by them several years ago. In 1866 this club began to make this their annual summer camping-ground, and in 1868 they leased ground of Peter F. Schenck and built upon it. On the expiration of lease they moved to the house they now occupy.

An actors' colony has sprung up at the Navesink Highlands, just above the mouth of the Navesink River. Three or four summers ago Mr. John Webster was at the Highlands, visiting his friends, and he became very much interested in the various attractions of the place. Up on the hill, just below the Highland Twin Lights, he bought an eligible building site, upon which he erected a fine mansion. Next on the right is the country palace of W. B. Hayden, manager of Thomas W. Keene, the tragedian, one of the most picturesquely situated of seaside residences. Mr. Wheelock's cottage flanks the Webster house on the other side. From all of these houses, situated some four hundred feet above the water's edge, there are very fine views. The buildings on Coney Island can be easily distinguished, as can also, in clear weather, the great Rockaway Hotel. Further down the road is the handsome summer residence of Mr. Neil Burgess. Not far from his house is the cottage of Horace McVicker, who usually manages the starring tours of Edwin Booth. Mr. McVicker's wife is professionally known as Miss Affie Weaver, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Weaver, occupy a portion of the large, white McVicker cottage. At the base of the bluff along which these actors' summer houses are stretched runs the Navesink River. On the other side of the stream there is a strip of land just wide enough to contain the tracks of the New Jersey Southern Railway.

Beyond the sand strip the ocean rolls upon as fine a beach as there is along the shore.

Parkertown lies at the head of Sandy Hook Bay on a level piece of ground at the foot of the Highlands. It contains a Reformed Church, a store and forty or fifty dwellings. It was settled by people who made fishing a business, and it is still carried on extensively.

In 1873 the Rev. A. W. Allen, a Congregationalist minister in failing health, came to the Highlands and settled. He began teaching children and visiting the people from house to house. Religious services were held in this way, several were converted and a church was organized. The majority decided to bring the church under the care of the Reformed Church Classis. The church was organized February 9, 1875, with twelve members. Mr. Allen was called to be their pastor, and labored with them until his death, in December, 1884. A church building was begun in 1874, and completed in 1875.

On the Navesink Highlands, the first light or beacon was put up in 1746, when the British and French governments were at war with each other, and the merchants and people of the city of New York were in a state of alarm, in expectation that French ships might enter the bay and destroy the city. At a meeting of the Council of New Jersey at Perth Amboy, August 13, 1746, President John Hamilton received a communication from the New York authorities requesting that a beacon be erected on the Highlands to give warning of the approach of hostile ships. On receipt of this communication the Council took action, which is shown by the tenor of the president's instructions to the colonel of the Monmouth County militia, as follows:

"I am this day advised by His Majesty's Council that it will be for the security not only of this Province, but also of the City and Province of New York, that a proper Beacon be Sett up and Erected upon the most Convenient Part of the Highlands of Neversinks in Order to Give the Erlyest Alarm of the Approach of an Enemy, And Do therefore, in pursuance of the said Advice, Order that a proper Beacon be Erected upon the Said Highlands of Neversinks in such place and in such manner as you shall think most proper. And I do hereby further Order and Direct that You Give or Cause to be Given Orders to the Severall Persons who shall be appointed to Keep Watch near the





said Beacon, when Erected, that they do not Presume to Sett Fire to it without Your Order or the Order of one of the Field Officers of the Regiment under Your Command, or the order of Richard Saltar, Nathaniel Leonard or Robert Hartshorne or of any one of you or them; but upon the approach of Six Ships or more, the Person then upon the Watch is immediately to apply to some one of the Persons above mentioned, who upon Such application, is Requested to Proceed to the Said Beacon, and if he Judges the said Ships to be Enemys, he is then to order the said Beacon to be fired, and is to send Immediate Notice to You or to one of the Field Officers of the Regiment of the said County, who is hereby Required, upon Receipt of Such Intelligence, to Send Notice thereof to Me or to the Commander-in-Chief of the Province for the time being."

On the same day that these orders were issued "the Board being informed that John Little, Esq., Lieuten't-Coll'l, and John Redford, Esq., Major of the Regiment of the County of Monmouth, were in Town, Requested their Attendance," to give information as to how far the militia officers of that county had carried out the orders and instructions given in a proclamation by the late Governor Lewis Morris for the establishment and keeping up of watch-stations at several points along the Monmouth sea-coast. The lieutenant-colonel and major thereupon came to the Council meeting and "Informed His Honour and the Board that, Pursuant to the said Proclamation, on the 28th and 30th Days of April Last Watches were Stationed at Squan, Deal, and the Highlands of Neversink, all upon the Sea-Coast, and that these Watches have been from Time to Time Relieved, and are at present supply<sup>d</sup> from the Regiment of Foot of the County of Monmouth; that the Instructions given to these Watches are to give Notice to the next Commanding officers, who have orders upon such Notice to Call together their Companys, and to send forward the Alarme to the Commanding Officer of the County."

It was expected that the lighting of the beacon would be seen in New York, and the alarm communicated thence by the authorities to the commanding officers of the militia of Bergen and Essex Counties, who had instructions thereupon to march their commands to the assistance and defense of the city without delay. But about a month afterwards one of the beacons on the Highlands was set on fire (by accident, as

was stated), and no notice taken of it in New York, which called forth a letter from President Hamilton, of New Jersey, to the Council of New York (dated September 27, 1746), in which, after mentioning the fact of the accidental firing of the beacon, he said: "However Lucky it may be thought that Your Province has Escaped a false Alarm, Yet I make no Doubt but that you are of Opinion with Me that an Alarm from any Quarter, when Rightly Given, must be of the Utmost Importance, and therefore hope you will, for Our Mutual Security, take such Steps in Regard to your Watches as will Effectually Prevent the Like Neglect for the Future." But this affair destroyed confidence in the efficacy of the beacons for the timely communication of alarms, and it does not appear that they were successfully used (or needed) as against a French invasion; but years afterwards, during the Revolution, they were in almost constant use when the British fleets were in the bay or the offing, and they often did good service in calling the militia of the county to threatened points upon the bay and ocean coast.

The first permanent light-house on the Highlands was erected a short time prior to 1765. Smith, in his "History of New Jersey," published in that year, says: "At the Highlands of Navesink the New York merchants have lately erected a commodious light-house for the security of navigation."

The "twin light-houses" on the Highlands were built by the United States government on land purchased for the purpose of Nimrod Woodward, July 26, 1826. The first appropriation for the Highland light-houses was made in an act of Congress approved May 18th, in that year, which authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to have them built by contract. They were first in use in 1828, rebuilt in 1840, and again in 1862. The two towers stand one hundred yards apart. The lights are two hundred and forty-eight feet above the level of the sea; heights of towers from base to light, fifty-three feet. The lanterns are first-class lens, both fixed, visible over twenty-two nautical miles, at an elevation of fifteen feet above the level of the sea. The north tower is octagonal, and the south one square. The lights are farther



above the level of the sea than any on the Atlantic coast.

At the twin lights a signal code of numbers was used to communicate from the place to the bluffs on Staten Island and to Holt's Hotel (now the United States Hotel). A signal telegraph station, one hundred and eight feet in height, was erected between the keeper's dwelling-house and the south light, from which the signals were shown on large arms. This was used until the telegraph superseded it. The keepers of the Highland lights since 1828 have been,—Joseph Doty, James Wilson, Joseph Lopez, Joseph I. Thompson, James D. Hubbard, Samuel Mullen, Gordon Sickles, Smith Conover, Taber Chadwick, — Van Allen and Captain Daniel Calkins, who is the present keeper. The cannon that lies on the brow of the hill near the light-house was found there when the land was cleared of timber.

Navesink post-office village is a small settlement lying west of the Highlands and near the head of Clay-pit Creek. The lands of this place and vicinity are west of those which formed the extensive Highland estate of Richard Hartshorne more than a hundred and eighty years ago. These lands were owned by John Bowne, and in 1765, David Burdge had purchased a tract of land and built a saw-mill on a branch of Clay-pit Creek. In 1795 one John Bowne sold to Jacob Burdge a small piece of land on Clay pit Creek, on which was situated the "old saw-mill dam." He bought a small tract the year before of James Lewis, adjoining his brother, Benjamin Burdge, who purchased, June 28, 1786, of Joseph Brown and his wife and Rachel Maelise. As early as 1820, Rice Hatsell came to the place now called Navesink, and opened a store. The place was called Riceville until 1867, when the post-office name was changed to Navesink, as at present. It contains a post-office, with John M. Johnson, postmaster, a Methodist Church, Baptist Church, the All Saints' Memorial Chapel, and a public hall, which was built in 1879.

#### THE NAVESINK BAPTIST CHURCH,<sup>1</sup> pre-

viously known as the Second Middletown Baptist Church, was the outgrowth of the First Baptist Church of Middletown. It was occupied as an out-station or missionary field by the First Church; and, as far as can be ascertained, the first pioneer or mission-work was commenced in this part of the large territory of the First Church by Rev. Thomas Roberts, in his settlement with the First Church in 1823. This part of the country at that time was thinly settled; large tracts of land were held by patents and grants from the mother-country by the Hartshornes and others; very few of the inhabitants were found to be in sympathy with the Scriptural principles of the Baptists; High Churchism and Antinomianism strongly prevailed; yet there were a few prominent and earnest Baptists; such were Deacon John D. Burge, the sisters Debowe, Captain W. Leonard and others who were always foremost in good words and works.

About this time the first Sunday-school was established, with a limited means and inexperience, but which proved an important element in building up a strong Christian sentiment in both the past and present generations. Father Roberts, as he was known, labored in this part of the field under many difficulties, having no house for public worship, preaching in a school-house and in private houses in the different neighborhoods, holding service every two or four weeks, in the evenings during winter and afternoons in the summer.

Here the first temperance society was formed, called High Point Temperance Society. Alcohol reigned supreme; no household was without it; it even entered into the sanctity of the pulpit; engrafted, in fact, into all the phases of society. Entrenched as it was by long usage, it was not so formidable a foe but that these few devoted followers of truth and right ventured to make an attack upon it; and in a few years a marked change had taken place, which had been accomplished through their unostentatious labors. The good work progressed until public sentiment compelled the evil to disappear from the sideboards, etc., and a healthier Christian feeling began to prevail, the meetings began to be better attended and larger numbers added

<sup>1</sup> By Edward Hooper.





to the church. A large number of the members traveled five or six miles, almost every Sunday, to hear the preaching of the Word. About this time Father Roberts resigned, and the Rev. D. B. Stout was called; he accepted, and commenced labor with distinguished honor to himself and usefulness to the community. R. A. Leonard, co-operating with the pastor, began to hold what was called a two or three days' woods-meeting; large revivals were the result; weekly prayer-meetings were started; preaching in the public school-house was commenced on every Sunday afternoon in the summer, and evenings in the winter; and a series of meetings in the fall or winter, resulting in the conversion of large numbers.

The school-house accommodations having become too small, a large number of the members determined on the erection of a house of worship, which object was accomplished. Weekly Sunday-school was commenced and kept open the year round; weekly prayer and conference meetings also. Many remarkable revivals were witnessed, and scores were added to the church. The way was now open for a change; many of the members determined to avail themselves of this part of the field for the organization of another church; steps were immediately taken for the accomplishment of this object.

The First Baptist Church of Middletown met at their meeting-house for business July 30, 1853; fifty-five members of said church, living in Riceville and vicinity, requested to be dismissed, to constitute a Baptist Church at Riceville, on the 3d day of August following.

"Middletown, July, 1853.

"To the First Baptist Church in Middletown:—A number of the members of this church invited their pastor to meet with them in the meeting-house in Riceville, to take into consideration the propriety of organizing a Church of Jesus Christ at that place for the benefit of brethren and sisters living too remote from Middletown for constant attendance there, and also for others who incline to favor Baptist principles. Our beloved pastor spoke decidedly in favor of the design as laudable and Christian in its character; for we had no design of taking any step in the business without his approbation and the cordial concurrence of the church. Therefore, we, whose names are hereunto appended, respectfully ask to be dismissed for the purpose above stated. We have no self-interest

to answer; the Gospel of God and the good of souls are the objects which we seek to advance; and, as we believe this church to be equally interested in the promotion of the cause of Christ with ourselves, therefore, we submit the matter to your decision. If an organization is needed there, and you say to us, go there and labor for God, in His strength we will go.

"And may the Spirit of our ascended Redeemer go with us, and also remain with you, that both may live and labor in perfect love and harmony and know no other interest but that of Christ.

"We remain affectionately yours,

"R. A. LEONARD.

"Richard A. Leonard,	Elizabeth C. Roop,
Sarah Leonard,	Martha N. Carhart,
Richard Carhart,	Louisa Carhart,
Catharine Carhart,	Edward Hooper,
R. A. Leonard, Jr.,	Thomas Bowne,
Mary E. Leonard,	Elizabeth Bowne,
Thomas Leonard,	Rev. Thomas Roberts,
Mary A. Leonard,	Eleanor Roberts,
Elizabeth Leonard,	Harriet Solly,
James H. Leonard,	Walter Maxson,
Catharine Debowe,	John Morris,
Alice Debowe,	Elizabeth Brown,
Joseph Davis,	Valeria Skidmore,
Sarah Davis,	George Eldridge,
George Davis,	Mary Ann Eldridge,
Sarah Davis,	Ursula Hooper,
Anna Tilton,	Mary A. Tilton,
Nathaniel Roberts,	Julia Yarrow,
Phebe M. Roberts,	Tenbrook Davis,
James Brown,	Nehemiah Brower,
Susan Jenkins,	James Applegate,
Jonathan Maxson,	Letitia Applegate,
Sarah Maxson,	Lydia Smith,
William Roop,	George Alley,
Vilimpa Roop,	Catharine Alley,
Matthias C. Roop,	Joseph Maxson,
Joana Roop,	Maria Maxson,
Charles Meritt.	

"Therefore, on the 30th of July, 1853, at Middletown, it was moved, seconded and carried that the above said members be dismissed to be constituted a regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, at Riceville, in the township of Middletown, in the county of Monmouth, and State of New Jersey.

"Done by order and in behalf of the Church.

"JAMES FROST, *Church Clerk*."

A council was held in the meeting-house at Riceville, August 3, 1853. Rev. D. B. Stout appointed president; R. Middleditch, vice-president; E. Hooper, secretary. The Rev. Mr. Votey, of Eatontown, opened the meeting with prayer. Sermon by Rev. R. Middleditch, of Red Bank. Recognition, Rev. Mr. Jenkins.



The church represented by R. A. Leonard. The church to be called the Second Middletown Baptist Church.

An adjourned meeting was held on the 20th of August, 1853, for the election of officers for the church. The Rev. Thomas Roberts was appointed moderator; E. Hooper, clerk. By a unanimous vote, Messrs. R. A. Leonard and Thomas Leonard were elected deacons, and E. Hooper clerk. At this meeting was unanimously adopted the New Hampshire confession of faith and covenant. The members of this infant church, possessing many elements which secure prosperity, were, nevertheless, men and women of limited means. The house belonged to the parent church. A committee was appointed by the church to confer with the First Church in regard to it. The committee reported, conveying to the church the house of worship, together with the lot of ground upon which it is erected, without any incumbrances. In October of the same year the following persons were elected trustees: R. A. Leonard, David B. Swan, George Carhart, Daniel Roberts, Richard Carhart, Joseph Davis, Silas Tilton.

A call was tendered to the Rev. W. V. Wilson to become pastor. He accepted and commenced work October, 1853. After one year's service he resigned, October, 1854.

The aged and venerated Father Roberts, after many years of absence, returned to Middletown and became a member of this church, which now being without a pastor, Father Roberts consented to serve as a supply until the church should call a pastor. He successfully served the church four years. Twenty-four were added to the church by baptism.

The church extended a call to the Rev. E. S. Browe, which he accepted, and commenced his pastorate July, 1858. After four years of labor he resigned, January, 1862. Twenty-one baptisms. The church now remained a few months without a pastor. Rev. W. B. Harris became pastor, and entered upon his duties July 13, 1862, and served until March, 1867. Baptisms, forty-eight.

It was during the pastorate of Mr. Harris that the death of Father Roberts occurred.

After preaching the gospel for more than fifty years (four years of which he spent among the Cherokee Indians) he died, on September 24, 1865. In the usual letter to the association, the Second Middletown (now Navesink Baptist Church) writes: "One event has occurred within our church which is of interest to the members of the association. Our aged and venerated brother, Thomas Roberts, has gone from our midst to his rest above. We can truly say that his place, probably, can never be filled. Aged, wise and experienced; lovely in spirit and life, generous, and devoted to Christ and His cause; always ready, as far as the infirmities of age would permit, for every good work. He has lived long among us, and ever exhibited the spirit of the journeying pilgrim, expecting to reach the land of rest. Suddenly his journey ceased, and the aged pilgrim entered the gates of pearl, leaving his brethren and numerous family the legacy of his meek, laborious and persevering example."

The church was without a pastor until January, 1868, when Rev. J. J. Baker was called to the pastorate. He served the church over eleven years; resigned February, 1879; baptisms, sixty. He served the church longer than any other one. Before his settlement the church owned a parsonage, three-quarters of a mile distant, purchased at the time of Rev. E. S. Browe's settlement; it was sold and a new parsonage bought in the village, near the church, the Rev. J. J. Baker being the first occupant. Other changes were made during his ministry. The relation with the East New Jersey Baptist Association was changed to the Trenton Baptist Association May 29, 1872; also the name of the church, and, according to the new act of the Legislature of the State concerning Baptist Churches, changed the corporate name of the Second Middletown Baptist Church to the corporate name of Navesink Baptist Church.

The following trustees were elected March 24, 1877: Thomas Leonard, R. A. Leonard, N. H. Roberts, William H. Posten, George Davis, James H. Leonard. At the same meeting R. A. Leonard, Jr., was elected deacon. Among the events of interest occurring during this period, and one of the most important, as well as afflictive, was the death of the senior





deacon, Richard A. Leonard, born in February, 1812, and died on May 5, 1877, in his sixty-fifth year; baptized by Father Roberts, April 4, 1834; was a constituent member of the church, and elected deacon in 1853, which office he filled with rare fidelity until his death. At the very outset of his Christian career he actively engaged in every good word and work; the cause of temperance had in him a firm and consistent advocate, especially among the young, and of the Sunday-school he was superintendent from the first until his death.

The present pastor, Rev. Charles T. Douglass, was settled over the church June 1, 1879. The present membership of the church is one hundred and forty-six.

About 1866 a Methodist Church was formed at Navesink, and the Chapel at Chapel Hill was sold and a new church edifice built at this place. The pastors who have served at this church have been A. J. Gregory, E. J. Lippincott, L. M. Atkinson, S. F. Gaskill, G. R. Snyder and L. A. Lavelle.

**ALL SAINTS' MEMORIAL (EPISCOPAL) CHURCH** is located on the Maclise Creek, southwest of Navesink village. On the 16th of October, 1861, the rector of Trinity Church, at Red Bank, began week-night services in the school-house at Riceville (now Navesink), and continued them for a time. In June, 1862, Charles E. Milnor, Esq., residing in Riceville, gathered his own and some of his neighbors' children together on Sundays and gave them religious instruction; other children and teachers gathered in, and the desire for a church became great. The death of Mrs. James A. Edgar caused her father, John H. Stephens, to erect a memorial to Mrs. Edgar and other deceased members of the family. A parochial organization was effected in 1863, and in October of that year the corner-stone of All Saints' Memorial Church in the Highlands was laid by the Right Reverend William H. Odenheimer, D.D., bishop of New Jersey. The church was consecrated October 7, 1864. Soon afterwards the Rev. McWalter B. Noyes became rector of the parish. He was succeeded by

the Rev. Theodore M. Riley, whose successor was the Rev. Mr. Murray, who accepted in February, 1869, and resigned in November, 1871. The Rev. J. S. Weills became rector September 1, 1872. He remained until 1875. His successor was the Rev. Samuel Edson, who was, in turn, succeeded by the Rev. Dr. McKim, the present rector.

The church lot was purchased, and the Memorial Church erected on it complete, by John H. Stephens, Eleanor P. Stephens, James A. Edgar, Charles E. Milnor, and others connected with Mr. Stephens' family. The church is of field stone of dark orange tint, with Dorchester stone trimmings. It was designed by Richard M. Upjohn, an architect of New York. The windows are all memorial. The All Saints' Mission School and the rectory were completed before 1872.

The Atlantic Highlands are on Sandy Hook Bay, to the northwest of the Highlands of Navesink, which latter, together with the Atlantic Highlands and all the elevated lands extending south and east from the bay to Clay-Pit Creek and the Navesink River, were known in the days of the early settlements as Portland Heights; and at the same time the locality now called the Atlantic Highlands was named Portland Point, from which place westward to Point Comfort the bay was called Shoal Harbor.

On the 12th of June, 1669, "at a legall towne meeting" of the town of Middletown, it was voted "that the meadows that lies only about Shoal Harbour necke shall for present bee laid out into thirty-six lotts, the rest to bee laid out betweene the 29th of September and the 25th of December." James Grover was appointed to lay out the meadows. June 14th, at a meeting, it was ordered "that the meadows shall bee fenced with a general fence by the whole inhabitants, being thirty-six in number . . . the fences to bee made and mayntaind."

On the 15th of December, 1667, fifteen days before the Middletown lots were laid out, ten lots had been laid off at Portland Point, a record of which is found in Book A of Deeds, as follows:



"The Lotts on Portland Poynt being . . . into No. 10 are layd out and are in breadth 20 yds each Lott and run up from the banek into the woodes upon A strait line W. & N. with Sor nar as the land is Good About 60 or 70 poles, the further west lott one the south side No. 1<sup>1</sup> No. 2, James Bounds; No. 3 Richard Richardson's. The Lott one the north side the swamp or valley. The first is Randall Huetts Senior, No. 4; the next lott, is Henry Pixsey, No. 5; No. 6, John Biuds [Bowne]; No. 7, Randall Huetts Junior; No. 8, William Bounds; No. 9, William Shakely

"And further it was granted unto the inhabitants aforesaid att portland point att the time of y<sup>e</sup> Cort . . . and laying out off ye above named ten Lotts December 15, 1667, that in regard off the small quantity of land to those the said Lotts Belonging att present, that if hereafter any more land remaint at hand bee found fitt for planting the inhabitants above said shall have the benefitt thereof for y<sup>e</sup> further Inlargment of the above said Lots of Land."

"June 15: 1669 It is further agreed that the men That are deputed to asist James Grover in the laying out the meadows shall bee satisfied in soe many dayes workes as they are out upon the service: and these dayes workes to bee performed by the rest of the Inhabitants at such times as they are upon the service Themselves bearing an equall part with the rest.

"James Ashton making a satisfactory excuse to the Towne of nott asisting James Grover in laying out the meadows John Smith was chosen to supply his roome

"It was further ordered that the equality of the division of the meadows is putt to the Judgement of James Grover: Richard Stoutte: and Jonathan Hulmes.

"It is likewise ordered that as many lotts: as according to Judgement are found defective: that upon Just complaint: the three men: viz: James Grover: Richard Stoutte: and Jonathan Hulmes: shall take a view: of the said defective meadows: and accordingly shall give the choice in this second division to the owners of the defective meadows: and further that according to the degrec of the defect of any ones meadow in the first division: viz: (shoale harbour meadows) soe have they full power (by vertue of this order) to dispose of successively: wch disposall of the three above named: by agreement of the towne shall stand for Equality.

"Ordered: that upon debate: of putting fresh lotts to salt lotts according to the desire of some who thinke it equality is left to decide: when an exact cognizance of the meadows is taken when they are divided: and the fresh and salt lotts in the first and second division of meadows well viewed.

"Testis: Edw: Tartt: Towne Clearke."

On these Portland Point lots a considerable number of houses were built, and courts were

held there many times during two or three years following,—November 2, 1669, at the house of Richard Richardson, and July 5, 1670. Courts and "General Assemblies" were also held at the house of Randall Huett, at Portland Point.

Randall Huett, Sr., died in January, 1669, and his widow, Margaret, became the wife of Bernard Smith before July 14, 1673, as on that date she appeared before John Bowne, justice of the peace, as "the wife of Bernard Smith, formerly wife to the late deceased Randall Huett," and consented to the sale of her lands, goods and cattle, which were sold as follows:

"To all people to whom these presents shall come I Bernard Smith of Portland point in the province of New Jearsy send greeting: Know Yee: that I the afforesaid Bernard Smith: for: and in consideration of a valuable summe of monney: beeing part of a Debt owing from my Predessesor Randall Huitt late deceased: to Cornelius Stenwicke: Merchant of new Yorke as apeares by obligation bearing date the 20th of may: 1658 of wch valuable summe of monney I doe acknowledge my selfe fully satisfied contented and paid: and thereof: doe exonerate acquitt: and discharge: the said Stenwicke) have hereupon absolutely sould: infeofed: and confirmed: and by these presents: doe sell infeofe aud confirme: all that my towne share of land: wch was formerly procured from the Pattentecs: by my predessesor Randall Huitt late Deceased: wch towne share of land is comprehended in one of the three purchased neckes: Viz: newsinke Narramsun and Potepecke: as may apeare in the booke of Records of the said three necks: like wise I the afforesaid Bernard Smith in consideration of the above said valluable summe of monney have sould to the said Cornelius Stenwicke all that my share of that land commonly called the gift land belonging to my predessesor Randall Huitt as may apeare in the said Records all wch towne share of land: and share of gift land as apeares in the said Records: with all the apurteanances and priveledges thereunto belonging or apertaining: I the afforesayd Bernard Smith from mee: my heires: unto the afforesaid Cornelius Stenwicke and his heires for ever: and by vertne hereof doe make good the purchase: warranting the sale from any that shall lay claime thereunto: by vertue of any right: title: or interest: (claimed from the grand pattent and booke of Records: or any else: from: by: or under mee: in wittnes hereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this sixt day of february 1672

"Signed: Scaled and Delivered in the presence of Edward Tartt	Signum talis Bernard B Smith
Towne clearke	Signum talis Margret m Smith
	the seale was affixed."

<sup>1</sup> The lot No. 1 was owned by John Thornberry.





The Portland Point settlement for some reason did not thrive, and the greater portion of the land on the west part came into the possession of John Bowne, by whom it was left by will to Daniel Brown, November 25, 1768; sold it to Mary Brown; it was adjoining the Esek Hartshorne tract. It was left to Uriah Brown, who, April 14, 1800, sold to Joseph Hooper a part of it, described as "situate on Sandy Hook Bay, being the westernmost point of Portland Heights." The other part was sold to the Leonards, who still occupy a part of it.

About 1834, William Brown built a landing at the place which had been Portland Point. The property came to the possession of Thomas Leonard, and his son, Thomas H. Leonard, lives in the old Brown farm-house. About 1877, Thomas Leonard and others built a dock and ran the steamer "Marion" to New York for freight and passengers. This dock was later extended by the Atlantic Highlands Association into the bay about three-quarters of a mile to deep water.

In 1879 the Atlantic Highlands Association was formed to purchase and lay out lands for camp-meeting purposes. About three hundred acres of land was purchased of Thomas Leonard, Edward Hooper, Nathaniel Roberts, Charles Woodward, John L. Patterson, Jacob Swan and John Dye. Improvements were at once made, and the grounds were formally opened July 27, 1880.

On the 11th of February 1881, the association became incorporated with a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The incorporators were the Rev. Stephen C. Baldwin, D.D., of Newark; Rev. J. E. Lake, of Seabright; Thomas Leonard, of Leonardsville; Somers T. Champion, of Pleasantville, Atlantic County; Rev. S. Wesley Lake, of Atlanticville; and Robert Emory, of Seabright. The corner-stone of a Methodist Episcopal Church was laid December 23, 1882, which was finished and is now in use as a house of worship.

Several hotels were erected, the largest of which is the Grand View. A fire company was organized January 9, 1883, as the Everett Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1. Many

fine residences are built at the Atlantic Highlands. A pavilion and large auditorium have been built for religious services in summer; the latter has a seating capacity of four thousand people.

The Navesink Park Company was formed in 1879, and purchased two hundred and sixty acres of woodland southeast from Atlantic Highlands. It embraces within its limits Mount Mitchell, from the summit of which a fine view of the bay and ocean are obtained. A wharf was built; also a pier thirty feet in width, which extends one thousand feet into the bay. The lands were laid out by Egbert L. Viele, the landscape engineer of Central Park, New York.

The Hillside Park Improvement Company was incorporated June 22, 1883, with a capital of thirty-five thousand dollars, with the object of improving land on the Atlantic Highlands. Their lands lie back of the Atlantic Highlands and north of Navesink village. It is intended to develop it as a place of summer resort.

Leonardsville is situated in the northeast part of the township, near the bay. It is a little hamlet, which received its name for the family of Leonard, who came to what is now this county, and built for James Grover the iron-works at Tinton Falls, then called the "Falls of Shrewsbury." James and Henry Leonard came from England, in 1642, to Taunton, Mass., and from that time to about 1667 were engaged in constructing iron-works in the eastern colonies. James Grover, one of the Monmouth patentees, settled at Middletown in 1667, and while surveyor of the township, a few years thereafter, discovered traces of bog-ore at or near the Falls of Shrewsbury, on the line between Middletown and Shrewsbury. He sent for the Leonards to come to New Jersey and construct iron-works, which they did, as mentioned. The name of Henry Leonard occurs frequently in the records for many years. The first mention is August 27, 1697, of "Henry Leonard's saw-mill, on Saw-Mill Brook, on the Manasquan road." March 6, 1706, a road was ordered laid from Lawrence Mill, on Hop Brook, to Leonard's Mill. Mention is again made in 1709, as Henry Leonard's saw-mill in



Middletown; and many times as "ye Leonard's mill." Samuel Leonard was a justice in 1700. An old tide-mill was standing many years ago on Mine Run, the site of which is now out in the bay. The Leonard family lived many years at Shoal Harbor, and are still living at the place called Leonardsville.

A store was opened at the place many years ago by Thomas Leonard, and a post-office was established. Soon after the opening of the Atlantic Highlands it was moved to that place. A Baptist chapel was erected in 1883, and dedicated in June of that year. It is under charge of the Navesink Baptist Church.

. On the bay, near Leonardsville, is "Applegate's Dock," located on a part of a large tract of land lying along the bay, which, in 1674, was the subject of a dispute between Bartholomew and Thomas Applegate and Richard Sadler on one part, and John Bowne and others of the Monmouth settlers on the other. The case is explained with tolerable clearness in the following extract from the minutes of "A Council held at Fort Willem Hendrick (New York City), on Thursday, the 8th of March, 1674, and presided over by the Dutch Governor-General, Anthony Colve." This was during the brief reoccupation of New York by the Dutch, in 1673-74. The extract is here given, viz.:

"Read and considered the petition of Bartholomew Appëlgadt, Thomas Appelgadt and Richard Sadler requesting in substance that they may be allowed to purchase from the Indians a tract of land situate about two leagues on this side of Middle Towne, near the Nevesings, fit for a settlement of 6 a 8 families, etc. Whereupon it is ordered: The Petitioners' request is allowed and granted, on condition that after the land be purchased, they take out patents in form for it, and actually settle it within the space of two years after having effected the purchase, on pain of forfeiture."

At another council held by Governor-General Colve on the 18th of the same month,

"John Bound [Bowne] and Richard Hartshooren [Hartshorne], residing at Middletown, both for themselves and partners, give notice that the land granted to Bartholomew Appelgadt, Thomas Appelgadt and Richard Sadler on their petition, is included in their, the Petitioner's, patent, requesting therefore that said land may again be denied to said Applegates: Ordered: Petitioners shall, within six weeks from this

date, prove that said land is included within their patent, when further order shall be made in the premises."

There is little doubt that the Applegates sustained their claim, as some of the family lived and owned land in that vicinity for many generations.

Port Monmouth is in the north part of the township, on Shoal Harbor, and at the northern terminus of the Raritan and Delaware Bay Railroad, now the New Jersey Southern.

Prior to 1854 the place, which afterwards became Port Monmouth, was known in general terms as Shoal Harbor. In this year a plank-road was built from Middletown village, through Chanceville (now New Monmouth), to the point then for the first time called Port Monmouth. The land on which it is situated was a part of the Thomas Seabrook estate.

The Port Monmouth Transportation Company was incorporated April 5, 1855, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, and with the following-named directors: Charles Morford, Aaron Seabrook, Jacob Conover, William Morford, John B. Crawford, Garret Van Dorn, Elias Morford and William W. Murray. This company built a long pier out into the bay to deep water, and built the steamboat "Eagle," to run from their pier to New York. A large hotel was also built, called the Port Monmouth Hotel.

Upon the opening of the Raritan and Delaware Bay Railroad to this point, making a route to New York by the connecting steamers, a large business was done, particularly during the War of the Rebellion. The steamers "Tamanend," "Jesse Hoyt" and others ran at different times on the line from the railway terminus to New York. During the time in which the railway traffic and travel passed by way of Port Monmouth it was a place of extensive business, but after the opening of the New York and Long Branch Railroad it declined rapidly, and is now a place of much less importance than formerly.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH of Port Monmouth was organized in 1864, and the present church was crected in 1866. The





pastors have been the Rev. Ananias Lawrence, C. C. Eastlack, S. H. Asay, J. F. Heilenman, E. T. Tunnicliff, J. Garrison, W. A. Massey, W. Franklin, E. Waters, L. A. Beeman and J. F. Seachrist, the present pastor. Harmony Church is now connected with this church, and the membership of both is one hundred and fifty.

The Port Monmouth post-office was established at the terminus of the railroad in 1861, with the Rev. William V. Wilson as postmaster. He still holds the office.

An enterprise was begun along the shore in 1871 of packing menhaden (fish) in oil. The business was carried on by Coit & Co., American Club Fish Company and Stanley & Co. It was carried on for four or five years, but finally abandoned. A. Osborn & Son, David Vail and Daniel Vail are now using large quantities of menhaden, extracting the oil for painting and selling the refuse for fertilizing purposes.

Leedsville is in the south part of the township, a short distance from Swimming River, which there forms the boundary against Shrewsbury.

In this locality William Leeds purchased of the proprietors a large tract of land on Swimming River, and March 29, 1680, he purchased the Indian right of Cherewas-Melileth, Cheries, Puropa, Lendreck, Iraseef, Mestoa, Poruras, Leoples, Secoes and Metopeek. Iraseef was called the sachem of Wickoton. Upon this tract of land William Leeds built a house which is mentioned in a road record of 1687 as "William Leeds' new house." A great portion of this land was left by Leeds in his will to the Episcopal Church of Shrewsbury, at that time embracing Christ Church of Middletown. This was held by the two congregations in common until 1855, when the property was divided.

The village of Leedsville is on the northern boundary of the Leeds tract, and as early as 1800 it acquired the name of Sandy New, by which it was known many years. Hendrick Bennett kept a tavern at the place from 1800 to 1820. It was later kept by Benjamin Leverson and by Gilbert Clayton, who was the last. In 1841, John H. Adlem bought the tavern property, and still owns it. Joseph Stillwell erected the present hotel about 1829.

A post-office was established here in 1841. The postmasters have been Samuel T. Holmes, Joseph Thomson, Cyrenus Thompson, Frank Ryan, Henry H. Adlem, Constant Ingling and Tenbrook Davis. The office was abandoned several years ago.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT LEEDSVILLE was organized in 1846, and October 10th in that year elected James Grover, John N. Johnson, Daniel Polhemus and Horace Gleason trustees. The society was incorporated February 25, 1847. A site was procured and timber was made ready for the raising of a meeting-house, when some financial difficulty occurred and the project of building was abandoned. It was again started in 1868 and a chapel was built, which was dedicated February 17, 1869. In 1876 the society was involved in financial difficulty and the house was sold to John Bergen and John Sutton, two Baptists of Red Bank, and in 1880 the society purchased and now own it. The pulpit has been supplied by the Red Bank Baptist Church from the first, and it is now a part of that church.

New Monmouth (formerly Chanceville) is situated in the western part of the township, north of Middletown village.

The land on which New Monmouth stands was in the hands of the Morford family before 1840, when William and Charles Morford opened a store and kept it from that time for many years. A post-office was established and Henry Morford became the postmaster. He afterwards went to Keyport and published the *New Jersey Standard*, and became a writer of some note. He was succeeded as postmaster by Howard Van Tassell, and H. J. Frost, who is the present postmaster.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT CHANCEVILLE was organized in 1854, largely from members of the First Baptist Church of Middletown. In the next year the present church building was erected and also a chapel. The church was remodeled and enlarged in 1860. The present membership is one hundred and forty-four. The Rev. William V. Wilson, of Port Monmouth, has been pastor of this society from its organization.



**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH** was organized in 1876 and has a membership at present of six hundred souls. The corner-stone of the church was laid June 21, 1878. A mission was begun here several years before by Father Danielson, and in 1876 Father John J. F. O'Connor became rector, and is now in charge. Morrisville Catholic Church is also under his care.

At "Holland," on the west line of the township, stands the Lyster house, which was built in 1730 by one of the family who came from Long Island and settled there. During the Revolution there were two brothers, Peter and Cornelius Lyster. The latter was the grandfather of Hendrick V. Lyster, now living near there. Peter lived and died on the homestead. John P., his son, was a soldier in the Revolution. Emma and Catharine Lyster, granddaughters of Peter, now live in the old homestead house.

Morrisville is a settlement on the township line between Holmdel and Middletown. The place has a store, a school-house and a few dwellings.

Prior to 1833 a Methodist Society was organized at Scott's Corners (now Morrisville), and, on March 30th in that year it was incorporated and trustees chosen. A lot was purchased not far from the Corners and a meeting-house erected upon it, which was also used for school purposes. On the 28th of March, 1845, the lot was sold by John B. Crawford, Samuel H. Smith and David H. Bennett, trustees of the church, to the school trustees. No permanent organization seems to have been held from this time.

Chapel Hill village is in the northern central part of Middletown township, two miles east of Middletown village and nearly the same distance south from the shore of the bay. This place had been known as "High Point" for many years prior to 1800. Soon after that date it began to be called by its present name, because of the erection there of a Baptist meeting-house or chapel.

**THE BAPTIST CHURCH** at what was soon afterwards known as Chapel Hill was organized as the "Independent Baptist Society and congregation at High Point, Middletown." June 17, 1809, the following-named trustees were elected: Rev. John Cooper, John Stillwell, Henry Johnson, Job Layton, William Norris and John Johnson. A meeting-house was erected which was known as High Point Chapel. How long the Rev. Mr. Cooper remained in charge has not been ascertained. The society was not incorporated until January 14, 1829.

A Methodist Episcopal Church was organized and incorporated at the place October 13, 1828, with the following trustees: James Lewis, William Baker and John Taylor. This society, early in 1829, purchased the High Point Chapel, and used it until the Methodist Episcopal Church was erected at Navesink, when it was abandoned and the house sold to Deacon Andrew Brown, of the First Middletown Baptist Church. Among the ministers of the Methodist Church were Revs. Loudenslager, Andrews, Jaquett, and in 1859-60, William A. Brooks. After the purchase of the chapel by Deacon Brown services were held occasionally by the pastor of the Middletown Baptist Church, and upon Deacon Brown's decease he left the chapel, by will, to the First Baptist Church of Middletown, who now use it as a place of worship.

A post-office was established at Chapel Hill about 1850, with Cornelius Mount as postmaster. He was succeeded by Alexander Waters, who kept store at the place. In 1882, Peter S. Conover succeeded him and is now postmaster. D. S. Bennett occupies the store in which the post-office is kept. The Chapel Hill beacon is near this place.

In 1684, John Loofburrow was in possession of a mill on Maelise Creek. As late as 1815 the creek was navigable for sloops and schooners within a half-mile of the mill. The farm is still in possession of the family; the mill passed into other hands about twenty years ago.

**HARMONY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** is situated near the west line of Middletown township, northwest of Middletown village.





In 1829, Miss Hannah Herbert (afterwards Mrs. Joseph Collins) opened a Sunday-school at her house, in Harmony, and also invited preachers to visit her house and preach. Among those who did so were the Revs. Bartholomew Weed, Thomas G. Stuart, James Moore, James Long, Isaac Felch and Mulford Day. A society was organized soon after 1829, which was incorporated February 23, 1835, with John B. Dennis, James C. Polhemus, Peter C. Dennis, Joseph Johnson and Stephen Pangborn trustees. A lot was bought June 24, 1840, of Silas Newmau, under the condition that a church should be erected thereon. It was built soon afterwards and was used until 1864, when it was enlarged and repaired. At this time it was under the pastoral charge of Rev. G. H. Neal. It was dedicated November 3, 1864, by Bishop Simpson. The pastors since that time have been Revs. Ananias Lawrence, C. C. Eastlaek, S. H. Asay, J. F. Herbert, J. T. Heilenman, E. H. Tunnicliff, J. Garrison, W. A. Massey, E. Gifford, A. J. Gregory, J. Wagg and J. T. Seachrist, the present pastor. This church is under charge of Port Monmouth.

The Fair View Cemetery is situated on rising ground between Middletown and Red Bank.

The Fair View Cemetery Company was incorporated March 28, 1855. The grounds are finely laid out into lots, walks and avenues, and well set with evergreens and deciduous trees. They were laid out by Ezra Osborne, of Middletown.

Oak Hill Nurseries (owned by Elnathan Fields) are situated west of Hedden's Corners and north of Nut Swamp. Fruit-trees, evergreens and deciduous trees and shrubs of all kinds are raised for the market.

The peninsula of Sandy Hook, from its northern extremity southward to a point three-fourths of a mile below the Highland bridge across the Navesink River, is within the jurisdiction of Middletown for township purposes, though it is the property of the United States for military and other public uses.

The first owner of the lands of Sandy Hook was Richard Hartshorne, who came to this part of the country in September, 1669. In 1703

he made a deed of gift of the Highlands and Sandy Hook to his son William, who died in 1748, and left it to his sons Robert and Esek.

In 1762 the light-house on Sandy Hook was established. On November 16, 1790, an act was passed declaring "That the jurisdiction of this State in and over a lot of land situate at the point of Sandy Hook, in the County of Monmouth, containing four acres, on which a light-house and other buildings are erected, shall be, and the same is hereby ceded to and vested in the United States of America for ever hereafter."

The title of the property passed to the United States February 26, 1806, from Richard Hartshorne (son of Robert), Tylee Williams and Nimrod Woodward, who owned the portion formerly owned by Esek Hartshorne. In March, 1846, an act was passed giving to the township of Middletown jurisdiction in and over all Sandy Hook, owned by the United States, lying north of an east and west line through the mouth of Young's Creek at low water, and extending across the island or cape of Sandy Hook from shore to shore.

The Sandy Hook light-house was established in 1762 and refitted in 1857. The light is ninety feet above the level of the sea; height of tower from base to light, seventy-seven feet. Its lantern is of third order lens, fixed, and at an elevation of fifteen feet above the sea visible fifteen nautical miles. It is said to be the oldest established light-house in the United States, with the exception of Brant Point light, a small affair near Nantucket, Mass., which was built in 1759. During the Revolution the Sandy Hook light-house was fortified by the British, inclosing a camp or cantonment which was occupied by Tory Refugees (black and white), and known as "Refugees' Town." The east and west beacon lights, on Sandy Hook, were established in 1842. The east beacon is forty-eight feet above the level of the sea. It went out in 1850 and was rebuilt. In 1880 a new iron tower was built on the site, and the light was used for the first time on the 15th of March in that year. A first-order steam fog syren signal, giving blasts of six seconds at intervals of forty seconds, is attached to the east



beacon light, north point of Sandy Hook. The west beacon tower is forty-five feet above the level of the sea and thirty feet from the base to the focal plane.

The Sandy Hook light-ship lies nearly due east from Sandy Hook light and the Highland lights about fourteen miles, and is the first of the Sandy Hook lights to be discovered by ships coming in from sea. It was first placed there in 1823 and rebuilt in 1862. It has two lights, each forty-five feet above the level of the sea, and is provided with a fog-bell.

A fort was begun on Sandy Hook by the United States government during the War of the Rebellion, but was never completed. A signal-service tower is also at the place. The Hook is used by the government as a ground for heavy gun experimental practice. Life-Saving Station No. 1 is located at this place.

Spermaceti Cove is about half-way from the Highland bridge to the northern point of Sandy Hook. At this place, before 1812, a tavern was built, and called the Cove House. It was kept by Thomas Martin, and was destroyed by fire in 1854.

At the "Horse-Shoe" on the Sandy Hook isthmus, and about one mile south of the light-house, is the terminus of the Long Branch and Sea-Shore Railroad, where are located the steam-boat wharf, depot, engine-houses and water-tanks.

Besides the beacons on Sandy Hook, there are three others in Middletown township, viz.: Point Comfort, Chapel Hill and Conover. Waackaack beacon is in Raritan township, ranging with Point Comfort. They are all range lights established by an act of Congress approved August 31, 1852. The report of the Light-House Board says they were all completed in 1856. Point Comfort beacon is forty-five feet above the level of the sea, Waackaack seventy-six feet, Chapel Hill two hundred and twenty-four feet and Conover sixty feet. Chapel Hill and Waackaack have second order lens and the other two third order.

Point Comfort beacon is located near the shore on Point Comfort, while Waackaack, with which it is in range, is inland, on the east side of Wakake Creek. Conover beacon is on Sandy

Hook Bay, near the Leonardsville dock, and is in range with Chapel Hill beacon, which stands on Chapel Hill, about two miles inland.

**SCHOOLS IN MIDDLETOWN.**—The township contains thirteen school districts and has school property valued at sixteen thousand two hundred dollars. Fourteen hundred and thirty-nine children of school age are registered in the township. Navesink District No. 59, embraces the territory on Clay-Pit Creek south and east of Navesiuk, where, in what was known in early days as Witch Hollow, a school-house was standing as early as 1800 and was there as late as 1820. "Master John Stevens," grandfather of Edward A. Stevens, of Hoboken, was a teacher there. About 1840, a school-house was built at Navesink, which was repaired from time to time and afterwards rebuilt. It is a large frame two-story house, and is now occupied by the school. This district now contains two hundred and twelve children of school age.

Chanceville District, No. 60, was formed under the present system April 23, 1857. The school-house in this district was built over fifty years ago and was rebuilt about 1858, and is now used. The district contains at present one hundred and three children of school age.

Harmony District, No. 61, has seventy-two children of school age. A school-house was built near the Harmony Methodist Episcopal Church before 1837. In that year it was known as District No. 3. Daniel C. Hendrickson, Andrew Wilson and John Eastmond were trustees. A meeting was held May 25, 1842, to consider the expediency of moving the school-house. A motion was made to change the site, which was carried. At a meeting June 11th, the action was reconsidered and vote again taken, and it was decided not to change. In February, 1857, another meeting was held, and the citizens were called upon to vote upon two sites,—the old one by Harmony Church and the lot near the corner of Jacob Halsey's land. The vote was taken and again lost. Soon after this time the school-house was burned. No record of any action for rebuilding on the old site is found. A lot was purchased of James Willet; the present house was built, and, with repairs, is still used.

Middletown District, No. 62, embraces





old Middletown village, where the first English school in the province of New Jersey was taught by John Smith, who was an associate with Roger Williams in his exilement to Rhode Island. He came to Middletown and took up Lot No. 5 in the "Town Lotts." He opened a school in the new village, and was married by John Bowne, justice of the peace, January 3, 1672. He evidently retired from teaching a few years later, for it is of record, June 22, 1678, that "John Smith, late schoolmaster, of Middletown in the province of East New Jersey, purchased a tract of land called by the Indians Mengache, but hereafter to be called amongst the English by the name of Smith's Field." It is not ascertained when John Smith taught in Middletown village, nor where "Smith's Field" was located.

A school-house which was in use in Middletown in 1785, was doubtless the one that stood on the Dr. Edward Taylor farm and in which he attended school in 1812. This house stood there until about 1830, when it was moved. Of the teachers in this old house were John Grant, Asher McQuin, — Buell and Robert L. Austin, who was the last. He continued in the new house, which was built on the site of the present Reformed Church lot. When it was decided to build the church, the school lot was thought the most desirable, and it was purchased from the trustees in 1835.

After that sale, there being then no school-house, a stock company was formed to build an academy, to be called Franklin Academy. April 19, 1836, John L. Hendrickson, William Wil-ling, Ezra Osborn, Dr. Edward Taylor, J. S. B. Beekman, Robert Hartshorne and James Pat-terson were elected trustees.

The present two-story academy was built, and Robert L. Austin became the first principal. School was kept in this building as an academy for several years. About 1851, it was turned over to the district, and is still used. The district now contains one hundred and twenty-seven children of school age.

Hedden's District, No. 63, is in the neighborhood of Hedden's Corner, in the south part of the township, between Red Bank and Middle-town village. Jonathan McClane, the father of James McClane, used to relate the tradition

that in McClane's Swamp, about half a mile below Hedden's Corner, there formerly stood a school-house in which an Irish teacher, in punishing a scholar who was kept after school, killed him and buried him under the school-house. The swamp for many years after, and within the recollection of some now living, was called Haunted Swamp.

As early as 1785 a school-house was built on the site at Hedden's Corner, at which Jonathan McClane attended. Jacob McClane also attended it in 1816. A new school-house was built about 1860, which was remodelled a few years ago. The district at present contains one hundred and eleven children of school age.

Leedsville District, No. 64, is located in the southwest corner of the township. In 1818, an old school-house stood on a knoll northeast from Jephiah Clayton's house, at which Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, William Jewell and Eliza Ogden attended. The house is now on the farm of Jephiah Clayton. About 1830, Cyrenus Thompson gave a lot of ground for school purposes, and on it the present house was built. It was rebuilt about 1855. The district at present contains one hundred and three children of school age.

Nut Swamp District is in the south part of the township, southwest of Hedden's Corner, west of Red Bank and east of Morrisville. Within the territory of this district the question of building a school-house was brought up in 1840, and on the 10th of March, 1841, a meeting of citizens was held at the store of Edward and John Michaus, at which time and place Joseph S. Applegate, John Michaus, William Smith, George Bowne and Thomas S. Field were elected trustees of the Association for Promotion of Learning. The society was incorporated November 27, 1841. A lot was purchased and the present house was built upon it and called the Union School-House. It is still used for schools. The district contains forty-nine children of school age.

Chapel Hill District, No. 66, embraces the little village or settlement of Chapel Hill, east of the centre of the township. The first school-house in what is now the Chapel Hill District was built in 1817 on Garret Hill. The lot



(one-sixth of an acre) was purchased November 4, 1816, for ten dollars. It was bought of William Stillwell by William Morford, John Stout and James Hopping, trustees of the "Garret Hill School." This house was used at the place until 1848, when it was moved to Chapel Hill, where it is still occupied by the school. The district contains at present eighty-one children of school age.

Highland District, No. 67, embraces the Navesink Highlands. The first school-house was built here, in 1834, by Peter W. Schenck and used for a private school for fifteen years, then abandoned. In 1845 the Highlands became a district, and Peter W. Schenck and Colonel William Jones erected a school-house on Jones' property, which was used for many years and then abandoned. In 1867 Edward Hartshorne erected a school-house near the Twin Lights. This was used until 1878, when it was sold to the Catholics, who occupied it as a chapel. Soon after the sale of this lot the district bought the present school site of Andrew Mount and built on it, and in 1880 the district voted two thousand dollars for the erection of a school-house. In 1884 it was decided to enlarge the house, and two thousand five hundred dollars was voted for that purpose. The house was enlarged to forty by eighty feet. It is well furnished with all modern improved furniture. The district now contains one hundred and ninety-six children of school age.

Port Monmouth District, No. 68, embraces territory in the north part of the township, along Compton's Creek and Shoal Harbor. The first school-house was built there about 1858, and was used until 1883, when it was rebuilt. The district at present contains one hundred and fourteen children of school age.

Bay Shore District, No. 69, now embraces the Atlantic Highlands, known in 1670 as "Shoal Harbor," and also as "Portland Point." On the 23d of March, 1807, Anthony Smith sold to Thomas Seabrook, Jacob Covenhoven and Humphrey Tilton, trustees, nine perches of land for four dollars, for the purpose of erecting a school-house thereon. A house was erected which was called the Shoal Har-

bor School-House. In 1883 a large and commodious house was erected at a cost of six thousand dollars, fitted with modern school furniture and dedicated November 9, in that year. The district now contains one hundred and twenty-one children of school age.

Brown's Dock District, No. 70, was taken chiefly from Chapel Hill District soon after the Garret Hill School-House was moved to Chapel Hill. It has been kept in good condition and is still used. The district contains forty-two registered scholars.

Seabrook District, No. 71, was taken from Bay Shore, and was named after Thomas Seabrook, who was one of the trustees of the Shoal Harbor School District in 1807. The present school-house was erected in 1862 and additions were made in 1884. The district now contains one hundred and eight children of school age.

Holland District, No. 54, and Morrisville District, No. 57, are both located on the dividing line of Holmdel and Middletown, and embrace territory in both townships. They are reported by Superintendent Lockwood in Holmdel, and are mentioned in the history of that township.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOSEPH FIELD.—Mr. Field is descended from English ancestry. The early members of the family resided on Long Island, from whence Elnathan, his grandfather, who died in his ninety-seventh year, removed to Monmouth County, where he purchased an extensive tract of land and became a farmer. He married Mary Willet, whose children were Thomas, Elnathan, Caroline, Mary and Huldah. Thomas was born on Long Island, and removed when a lad to Monmouth County, and spent his youth as a farmer in Middletown township. He married Rebecca, daughter of Captain Moses Shepherd, of the same township, to whom were born children,—Joseph, Thomas, Mary (wife of Daniel West), Caroline (married to James L. Wilson), and Rebecca (wife of Elnathan Field). Joseph was born on the 26th of September, 1792, on the homestead in Middletown, in the vicinity of which his life has been spent. Re-





ceiving such education as the district school afforded, he, when a youth, made himself useful on the farm, and later purchased the land on which he now resides, the original tract embracing one hundred and fifty acres, to which he has at various times added until it now embraces four hundred acres of arable land, which is devoted to general farming. Mr. Field has found it advantageous to let the farm, as the infirmities of age rendered labor difficult, and now as-

liberal towards all religious denominations, he inclines towards the Baptist faith.

CHARLES J. HENDRICKSON.—The great-grandfather of Mr. Hendrickson, was John Hendrickson, whose son Daniel was born in 1735, and married Nellie Van Mater, who was born in August 4, 1735. Their children were Anna, born February 14, 1761, married to Charles Dubois; Cyrenius, born May 3, 1766; and John, born



*Joseph Field*

sumes no responsibility in connection with its management. He was, in 1867, married to Miss Uretta, daughter of John Hedden. Their children are Joseph, Uretta and Rebecca. Mr. Field, while a former Whig and now a Republican in politics, is not strongly partisan, and votes for men of integrity and ability, irrespective of party, always, however, declining official position. He is a director of the Middletown and Red Bank Turnpike Company and identified with other township interests. Though

June 13, 1773. John resided upon the homestead, which is still in the family, having married Mary Lloyd, daughter of John Lloyd. She was born October 17, 1772. Their children were Eleanor, Daniel, John Lloyd and Charles J., the subject of this biographical sketch. He was born November 12, 1805, in the house which has for years been associated with the history of the family. At the age of twelve years he was sent to New Brunswick, N. J., and enjoyed the advantages of a thorough Eng-



lish education, from whence he removed to New York, and began a mercantile career as clerk, acting for three years in that capacity. Mr. Hendrickson was, in 1826, married to Julia Ann, daughter of Rev. John Schureman, D.D., professor in the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick, and granddaughter of Colonel Elias Conover. Their children are Julia (deceased), Mary Matilda, John Schureman, Lousia (deceased), Mrs. Edward M. Harts-horne and Ella. Mr. Hendrickson, on his

Covenhoven, who emigrated from Utrecht, Holland, to America in 1630. In the direct line from one of his three sons, Garret by name, was Hendrick, great-grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch. To his son, also Hendrick, who married a Miss Conover, were born children,—Garret H., Peter, Mary, Williampe, Jacob, and others who died in youth. Jacob, a native of Marlboro' township, resided within its limits during the greater part of his life, having married Eleanor,



*Charles J. Hendrickson*

marriage, removed to the farm inherited from his grandfather, which is his present residence. Finding active business more congenial to his tastes, he, in December, 1837, made Philadelphia his residence, and for twenty years pursued a mercantile life, after which he retired to his farm in Middletown.

**AZARIAH CONOVER.**—The Conover family so numerous represented in Monmouth County are all descended from Wolfhert Gerritsen Van

daughter of Barnes B. and Lydia Longstreet Smock. Their children are Mary (Mrs. John I. Taylor), Henry H., Azariah and Lydia (Mrs. John L. Bennett). Azariah was born on the 14th of February, 1821, in Marlboro', then Freehold township, and in infancy became an inmate of the household of his uncle, Garret Van Dorn, of Middletown township, then residing on the property now owned by Mr. Conover. After a period of instruction at home, he became a pupil of the Lenox

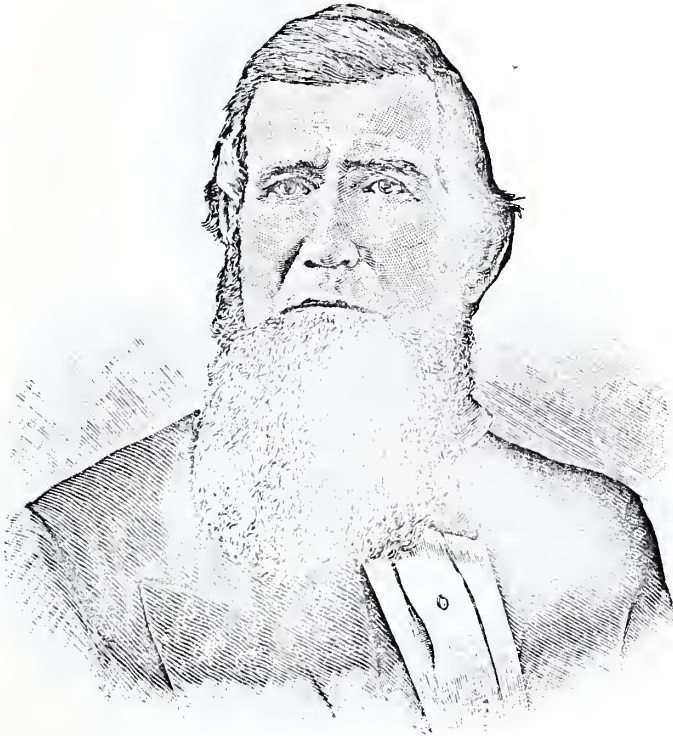




Academy, at Lenox, Mass., and later gave his attention to the cultivation of the farm, for several years superintending its varied interests. On the death of his uncle he purchased the land of the estate, and has since that time been actively engaged in farming of a general character, ranking among the successful agriculturists of the township. Mr. Conover was, in 1846, married to Miss Emily P., daughter of Thomas Sherman, who resided in the vicinity of Long Branch. Their children are Charles

Turnpike Company and the Middletown and Red Bank Turnpike Company. He is also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, of which he was one of the organizers, and has been for years on the board of management. Mr. Conover's religious convictions are in harmony with the tenets of the Reformed Dutch Church, with which he and his family worship.

REV. WILLIAM V. WILSON was born in



*Asaiah Conover*

E., of New York, married to Carrie, daughter of Peter Chanfrau, of Long Branch; Thomas (deceased); Williampe Van Dorn (Mrs. Samuel Rogers), of New York; and Jacob, who resides with his parents. Mr. Conover's political sympathies are with the Republican party, though he has never been an aspirant for any offices beyond those connected with the township, such as member of the township committee, township clerk and inspector of elections. He is a director of the Keyport and Middletown

Hunterdon County, N. J., November 18, 1811, was converted when about eighteen, and joined the church at Sandy Ridge in 1818. He had a thorough education, including a full course at Princeton Theological Seminary. On graduating, he became a missionary of the New Jersey Baptist State Convention in Middlesex County. He was pastor at Keyport and of the Second Middletown Baptist Church, and in 1854 became pastor of Port Monmouth Baptist Church, where for more than thirty years he has fulfilled his



ministry. He has been treasurer of the New Jersey Baptist Education Society, and is now (1885) its president. With preaching talents he combines an unusual aptitude for business, and he has freely and successfully used this for the cause of God. He succeeded in the almost impossible work of extricating Peddie Institute from its financial difficulties, and has frequently, by his counsels and labors, helped to raise money needed for benevolent operations. His published sermon on giving, and other discourses

His father was a millwright by trade, and for many years a lumberman in Pike County, Pa., in which business this son was engaged in his earlier days. His father died at the advanced age of ninety-six and his mother at eighty-one.

The subject of this sketch knew full well the struggle with poverty in obtaining an education, his own hands in great part supplying the necessary means.

His life, so far, has been a very busy one;



*A. V. Wilson*

and writings, have stirred up the people to greater consecration of their means and larger efforts to spread the gospel.

Soon after his settlement at Keyport he married into the Seabrook family, at Shoal Harbor (now Port Monmouth), where he has made his home ever since. This family and their ancestors have occupied this spot for near two hundred years. Deeds are in their possession, of land now wholly covered by the waters of the Lower Bay of New York.

full of labor, physical and mental. There is hardly any business outside of his profession in which he has not had a share,—railroading, steamboating, farming and general education, and withal a postmaster for the last twenty-four years.

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CAPTAIN CHARLES MORFORD.—William Morford, the father of Captain Charles Morford, was born in 1764, and in 1788 married Lydia Stout, whose birth occurred in 1768.





Of their twelve children, nine survived and grew to mature years. Charles, of this number, the seventh son, was born March 27, 1807, in Middletown township, and enjoyed such opportunities of education as were afforded near his home, supplemented by judicious reading and study at home. Developing early a taste for mechanics, he went to New York City, and learned the carpenter's trade, which was on his return to his home followed successfully for several years, in connection with farming. He

which Charles was made president, when a steamboat was built for the purpose of facilitating the shipment of produce from the adjacent country. The vessel, which made regular trips from Port Monmouth to New York, was under command of Mr. Morford as the first captain, and sailed daily from a substantial pier erected for the purpose.

Captain Morford was, on the 25th of September, 1832, married to Susan, daughter of Daniel and Margaret Herbert, of the same township,



*Charles Morford*

later engaged with his brother William in mercantile pursuits at Chanceville, now New Monmouth. Thomas Morford was soon added to the firm, and the first lumber and coal-yards were opened in this vicinity. These brothers were also instrumental in starting the first line of packets between the section of the bay-shore now known as Port Monmouth and New York, and for many years a very considerable business was done in sailing-vessels. A "Transportation Company" was afterward incorporated, of

their children being John, married to Z. Maria Brown; Caroline; Almira, wife of David S. Wyckoff; Lydia, married to S. T. Hendrickson; Margaret H.; Charles H., married to Lanra M. Worthley. In 1858, Captain Morford relinquished to his son John the homestead farm at New Monmouth which he owned and cultivated, and removed to the one in Middletown village now occupied by his widow and son, Charles H. Morford. He was identified with the leading enterprises of the county, and with



every movement which advanced the interests of the community. An early Whig in politics, he later indorsed the principles of the Republican party, and although much interested in the advancement of its principles, invariably declined the most urgent solicitations to accept office. He was one of the incorporators of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and vice-president of the Fairview Cemetery Association, in which he manifested an active interest. He was also at the time of his death, which occurred June 7, 1874, president of the Red Bank and Middletown Turnpike Company. He was in his religious convictions a Baptist, and both a member and trustee of the Middletown Baptist Church. A comprehensive estimate of the character of Captain Morford is embodied in the annexed tribute from a friend, published soon after his death:

"His Christian character, in the ordinary sense of the word, was fully conceded and warmly indorsed by all who knew him in that relation; there yet remains his rare and honorable singularity. Captain Morford was unlike the body of men with the talent and power of accumulation *in knowing, better than most men, how to make his means a servant and not a tyrant.* All know how difficult it is for the man who has, to use the ordinary phrase, 'made his money,' to avoid holding it too highly. Captain Morford learned years ago (and this is the especial subject of admiration) to make his money a merey and not an evil,—to use it as if it had been made for his use. Ripening with age and experience, he surrounded himself with the highest comforts and many moderate luxuries, making his residence notable for its moral as well as physieal atmosphere of enjoyment; he considered wealth never better expended than in his family, with the result of having won around him one of the happiest and most united families within the writer's knowledge. He traveled much on the American continent and in Europe during the Paris Exposition year of 1867 as a personal enjoyment and enlarging his knowledge of men and the world, laying up memories and friendships equally pleasant; and all this without holding back one tithe from the causes of religion and local benevolence,

with which he has been so long and honorably associated.

"The writer has believed that to this especial feature of Captain Morford's life—his ripening and broadening with years, instead of narrowing, as so many do—attention deserves to be more especially called, than others might call it, for the sake of the honorable example afforded, and in the hope that that example may not be unfruitful."

RICHARD A. LEONARD.—Nathaniel Leonard, Gentleman, received a commission in 1739, the thirteenth year of His Majesty George the Second's reign, appointing him lieutenant of Middletown Middle Company. He, and his wife, Deliverance, had four sons,—John, born in 1738, emigrated to Cuba and married a Spanish lady; Nathaniel, born in 1739, there is no trace of; Joseph, born in 1743, married Annie Bray and had children: Samuel (married to Lydia Madden), Sarah and Annie; Thomas, the great-grandfather of the present generation, born in 1753, married Alice Lawrence, whose children were Elizabeth, William and Joseph. William married Elizabeth Applegate, and afterwards Elizabeth Conover. To the first marriage were born children,—Richard, Mary, Thomas, John S., William and Elizabeth A. Captain Leonard, as he was familiarly called, in early life followed the water, plying between New York and Middletown, and occasionally extending his voyages to Virginia. Soon after his marriage he became both a farmer and merchant, and was for years actively engaged in business. His son Thomas resided on the homestead of his grandfather, Thomas, whose property is now in possession of the widow of Richard A. Leonard, the eldest son, who was born on the 17th of February, 1812, in Middletown township, and spent his youth on the farm owned by his father, to the cultivation of which his time was devoted, with the exception of the period spent at school. At the age of twenty-one years, being ambitious for a more independent life than was possible on the homestead, Mr. Leonard removed to his grandfather's farm, purchased for him by his father, William Leonard, where he resided





during the remainder of his life. He was, on the 14th of March, 1833, married to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Rev. Thomas Roberts, whose children are Richard, married to Delia F. Patterson; Sarah (Mrs. Charles McCleese); and Emma, wife of George Sherman. Mrs. Leonard's death occurred on the 8th of February, 1848, and he was again married, February 28, 1849, to Sarah, daughter of Rev. Thomas Roberts, of Middletown. The children of this marriage are Charles T., married to Annie Grover;

the projectors of the New Jersey Southern Railroad. He was also one of the founders of the Peddie Institute at Hightstown. The following tribute paid his memory by the executive committee of the New Jersey State Temperance Alliance conveys a just estimate of his character as a Christian citizen:

"The subject of this brief sketch, vice-president of the New Jersey State Temperance Alliance for Monmouth County, departed this life May 5, 1877, in the sixty-fifth year of his



*Richard A. Leonard*

William J., married to Fanny M. Clark; and Ella S. Mr. Leonard was, though an influential citizen of his township, seldom an officeholder, his leisure time having been devoted mainly to the inauguration and support of movements in behalf of reform and the upholding of morality and religion. He was largely interested in the success of the Agricultural Society of the county, of which he was one of the founders; one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Red Bank, and among

age. He became a decided Christian in early life, and united with the First Middletown Baptist Church, holding the offices of deacon, Sunday-school superintendent and trustee for fifteen years. When the church at Navesink was organized, in August, 1853, he was chosen one of its deacons, which office he filled with rare fidelity and integrity until his death. He was a man of great activity and energy, as his manner of attending to both secular and religious affairs fully exemplified. He succeeded



in acquiring considerable property, but was seldom so busy as to prevent prompt attention to his religious duties. He had a warm heart and a ready hand for every good word and work. In addition to strict fidelity as a Christian, a church member and officer, there were two departments of labor in which he took a special interest,—he was a warm friend of, and active worker in, the Sunday-school, but he was especially distinguished as a life-long and uncompromising enemy of the iniquitous liquor traffic. If a temperance meeting or convention was to be held, a petition or remonstrance circulated, the granting of a license defeated, a violator of the law prosecuted, or money raised to meet expenses, Richard A. Leonard could be relied upon as among the foremost in the work. It is also said that 'he used frequently to gather the youth of the neighborhood in the school-house, teach them temperance songs and enlist them in the work.' Nor did his zeal abate with his years, but remained unflagging to the end.

"His death produced a profound sensation in the community. At his funeral, the services of which were conducted by four different ministers, a large concourse of people attested their high appreciation of his character and worth. By honoring such men we honor ourselves."

Ella S. Leonard, youngest daughter of Richard A. and Sarah R. Leonard, entered Peddie Institute, Hightstown, in 1876, and rapidly rose to high rank in her class, winning the first prize for declamation at the commencement exercises in 1877; also the following year for excellence in elocution. In 1879 she graduated with the valedictory, in 1881 entered Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and was soon after appointed assistant editor for the period of her whole course of study. She was advanced each year, and finally became senior editor of the *Vassar Miscellany*; subsequently, in connection with Miss Caroline Lingal, purchasing the *Atlantic Highlands Herald*, and founding the *Atlantic Highlands Independent*. After enjoying all the honors the college could bestow, in May, 1884, she sailed for Europe, and made the tour of Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales, returning in the fall to complete her college

course, where she still remains engaged in study, graduating June 10, 1885, as class poet.

WILLIAM V. CONOVER, whose grandfather, Daniel Conover, was a resident of Atlantic township and a farmer, was united to Margaret Rezo, a lady of French descent. Their children were Daniel D., Garret, Tylee, Eleanor, Elizabeth and Margaret (wife of John Van Dorn). Tylee was born on the 1st of January, 1791, in Atlantic (then Middletown) township, and united in marriage to Maria, daughter of Garret Schenck, on the 9th of December, 1812. Their children are Sarah Ann (Mrs. John A. Morford), born in 1814; Daniel, in 1820; William V., January 6, 1824; Garret S., in 1831; Tylee, in 1836 (deceased). Mr. Conover, on his marriage, removed to the farm in Middletown now owned by his son, William V., which he cultivated until his death. He was a strong Democrat in his political sympathies, and manifested much interest in public affairs, his opinion on matters of public or private import being regarded with respect. William V., whose birth-place was the homestead, remained until seventeen under the paternal roof. Desiring then to enter into business, he removed to Long Branch, and engaged, as clerk, with a merchant of that place, who, at the age of twenty-one, admitted him to a copartnership, under the firm-name of Conover & Morford. He remained thus engaged until the death of his father, in July, 1847, when circumstances influenced his return to the farm situated on the attractive bank of the Shrewsbury River, where he has since resided. He was, on the 22d of December, 1853, married to Catharine, daughter of John Bennett, of Middletown township. Their children are John Bennett, born August 9, 1854, and married to Annie A. Morris; Sarah Maria, born March 22, 1856 (wife of Joseph Applegate); William Tylee, born November 19, 1857, married to Annie A. Cooper; and Henry Hudson, born December 12, 1860, who died August 19, 1861. Mr. Conover has made farming his legitimate pursuit, but since the age of nineteen has been an active worker in the field of politics. A Democrat in his political faith, he has acted as freeholder and filled





all the important offices in his township. In 1875-76 he represented his constituency in the State Legislature, serving on the committees on railroads and canals, fisheries, engrossed bills, agriculture, etc. He is director and president of the Red Bank and Eatontown Turnpike Company, and prominently identified with every important movement in his township. In such services as are performed by trustees and guardians his experience is found invaluable. Mr.

a tract of land on Rumson Neck, on which he remained until his death. To his wife, a Miss Butler, were born children,—Lucy, Elizabeth, Martha W. and John. The latter was born in England (as were all the children) on the 31st of January, 1781, his native county being Lancaster. He emigrated with his father and engaged in various employments during his active life, being in turn teacher, merchant and farmer. He married



*William H. Grant*

Conover, though reared in the faith of the Reformed (Dutch) Church, is at present a supporter of the Presbyterian denomination.

**WILLIAM H. GRANT.**—Edward Butler Thos. Grant, the grandfather of William H. Grant, emigrated to the United States in 1793, and resided two years on Long Island for the purpose of becoming an American citizen. He then sailed for France, and three years later, returning to America, purchased

Ann Hance, born October 10, 1786. Their children are Thomas, born in 1809; Martha, in 1810; John, in 1813; Edward, in 1815; Catherine, in 1818; William H., on the 24th of December, 1820; and Elizabeth. The subject of this biography, whose birthplace was Rumson Neck, spent his youth at this point and in adjacent portions of the county. In 1831 he removed to his present farm, which was included in the original tract secured by his father. On the death of the latter he inherited.



seventy-five acres, and has at various times added to its area until the farm now embraces two hundred and ten acres under cultivation. He has been a farmer from his youth, and is thoroughly practical in his methods; hence he has been successful, and while raising the usual products of the county, has given much attention to fruit-culture. Mr. Grant was, in 1854, married to Anna, daughter of Jarret Morford, of Red Bank. Their two children were Laura (deceased) and T. Henry, a civil engineer on the

ation for the Monmouth battle monument. He served on the committees on agriculture, unfinished business and the joint committee on commerce and navigation. He is a member of the State Horticultural Society, and active in promoting its objects and interests. Mr. Grant is in his religious associations an Episcopalian, and member and vestryman of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church of Middletown, of which he has been, for nearly a quarter of a century, business manager.



*Wm H Grant*

New Jersey Central Railroad. Mrs. Grant's death occurred March 5, 1868, and he was again married, April 22, 1875, to Mrs. Eliza Jane Watson, daughter of Thomas Hendrickson, of New York City. Mr. Grant's interest in the county and township of his residence has led to his nomination to many responsible offices. He was, in 1884, elected, as a Republican (in a Democratic district), to the State Legislature, and was instrumental in securing the appropri-

GEORGE CRAWFORD HENDRICKSON.—Mr. Hendrickson is the great-great-grandson of John Hendrickson and the great-grandson of Daniel Hendrickson, born in 1735, who married Nellie Van Mater. Among their three children was John, whose birth occurred June 13, 1773. He resided on the family estate, having married Mary Lloyd, who was born October 17, 1772. Their second son, John Lloyd, was born March 3, 1801, in Middletown township, and settled





on the property now the home of his widow, in that township, his death having occurred September 25, 1845. He was married, on the 16th of December, 1822, to Adaline, daughter of George Crawford, of Middletown, and had children,—Eleanor, born October 9, 1823, who died, October 22, 1837; Anna, born September 26, 1825, deceased; George C., whose birth occurred March 8, 1829; and Mary Louisa.

George Crawford Hendrickson was born on

bition for positions of trust and honor among his fellow-men. He gave little attention to enterprises of a public character, and rarely interested himself in matters apart from his own farm, which was successfully conducted and very productive. He greatly loved the quiet of his fireside. No man was more hospitable, more kind or generous to his workmen or more true to his friends. His heart ever responded to the calls of benevolence or religion. Though not a



*Sidney M. McClane*

the old homestead, and pursued his studies at Flushing, Long Island, after which he entered the academy at Middletown. He determined upon agriculture as the business of his life, and on the death of his father managed the property in the interest of the family. This work he continued during the remainder of his life, giving some attention to the raising of fine cattle and sheep. He was among the most substantial and respected citizens of the township, though his life was unassuming and free from am-

member of the church, he was a strong supporter of all Christian movements and a regular attendant of the Baptist Church. His death, which was universally deplored, occurred October 12, 1875.

SIDNEY MCCLANE.—Jacob McClane, the grandfather of Sidney McClane, was a native of Bucks County, Pa., and during the Revolutionary War the owner of a farm and ferry on the Delaware, the latter of which was intimately as-



sociated with the struggle for independence, in which Mr. McClane participated as a soldier in the battle of Germantown. He married Martha Burdge, whose children were Moses, David, Solomon, Jonathan and Martha. Jonathan was born in Bucks County, Pa., and removed with his parents to Monmouth County, his father having given him a farm on the Shrewsbury River, where his life was chiefly spent. He married Eleanor, daughter of Benjamin Burdge, whose grandfather, David Burdge, emigrated from England and secured an extensive tract of land in Middletown township. The children of this marriage are Jacob, William, Theresa, (Mrs. John S. Leonard), Sidney, Warren, Eleanor (Mrs. S. B. Close), Benjamin B. and Susan (Mrs. William M. Smith). Sidney, of this number, was born on the 27th of September, 1820, in Middletown township, and spent his youth with his parents, having been a pupil in boyhood of the neighboring public school, after which he interested himself in the cultivation of his father's farm. He eventually became owner of a portion of the homestead land, and remained upon it until 1866, the date of the family's removal to the attractive property now owned by his widow, where his death occurred on the 2d of July, 1874. He was married March 11, 1858, to Anne Smith, daughter of Joseph M. Smith, of Middletown township, whose children were six in number, three of whom are now deceased. Mr. McClane, though successful in all departments of farming, made horticulture a study, and devoted much of his time to the raising of choice varieties of fruit. He was formerly a Whig in politics, and later became a Republican, though never a participant in the active scenes of a political campaign. He was one of the originators, as also a trustee, of the Fair View Cemetery, and a director of the Middletown Turnpike Company. He was connected by membership with the Red Bank Baptist Church, of which he was a trustee. A man of modest bearing, and domestic in his tastes, his pleasures were found within the circle that gathered around his own fireside.

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WILLIAM M. SMITH was born in Middletown township, Monmouth County, N. J., in 1803,

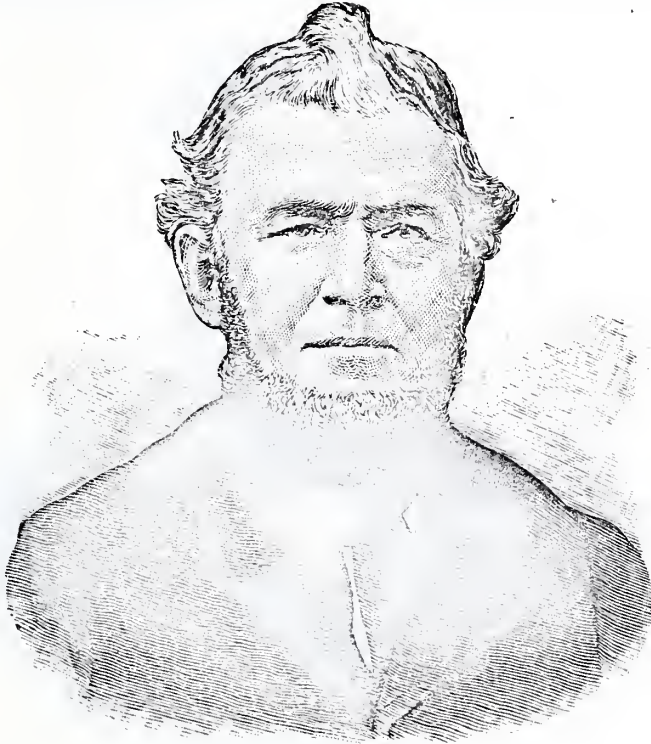
and died at his home on the 25th of February, 1879, within a quarter of a mile of his birthplace, the family homestead, which he himself owned at the time of his death. He was the son of Daniel Smith, long and favorably known as deacon of the Baptist Church in Middletown, with one or two exceptions the oldest in the State. Daniel Smith's death occurred in 1850. His father, grandfather and great-grandfather, three generations, all bore the name of William, the first William being the son and chief heir of John and Mary Smith, who arrived in New York in the year 1670 and bought a plantation in Middletown, the warrant of which is dated 1676. The will of John Smith bears date December 29, 1714, and enumerates seven children, William being the eldest. His son, the second William Smith, was married, about the year 1728, to Mary Compton, and died in 1770. Among his ten children was the third William Smith, the father of Daniel Smith and the grandfather of the subject of this biography. The third William Smith married, in November, 1762, Mary Layton and had ten children. He lived in an era that "tried men's souls," and, the records state, suffered, among other deprivations, a loss of £138 16s. 6d. through the British. His son Daniel, the father of William M., was born June 5, 1768, and married, in March, 1793, to Anne Maxon, one of the truest, noblest and best of women, whose father, Richard Maxon, was an officer in the War of the Revolution. Their twelve children were Joseph Maxon, Maria, Anne, Daniel, William M., Mary, Eliza, Theresa, Lucinda, Jackson, Amanda and Lydia, four of whom are still living. Perhaps the best estimate of the life and character of Mr. Smith may be gained from the expressions of the press on the occasion of his death. The *Red Bank Standard* spoke of him as spending his whole life in that community, and expressed the general regret at the loss sustained, saying: "Few farmers were more thrifty, few husbands more affectionate, few fathers more indulgent, few neighbors more obliging, few church members more devoted." Though a busy, stirring man, much absorbed in the cultivation and improvement of his fine estate, Deacon Smith never neglected his duties as a Christian. Converted





at the age of twenty-three, he became a member of the Baptist Church at Middletown, but finally brought his letter to the Baptist Church of Red Bank, of which he was a trustee at the time of his death. His life became very closely associated with all its spiritual and temporal interests, and while he substantially aided many other churches besides his own, the upbuilding of his own rested heavily upon his heart, many of his last days having been spent in planning the

and said of him: "He had a splendid farm, and was among the most prosperous men of the county, giving his time and attention to the improvement of his property until it was one of the most attractive places in this part of the State. He was honest, upright and thrifty, and leaves a good name behind as a reward of many years of honest labor and toil." He was formerly a Whig in politics, and afterward became a warm adherent of the Republican party. He was



*William M. Smith*

advancement of its best interests. He was especially anxious to see a parsonage erected, and not only donated for the purpose a lot, but also a liberal subscription. His long and painful illness was endured with patience and Christian fortitude, and as night brings out the stars, so those weary months of illness developed the brightest lustre of his Christian character. The *Monmouth Inquirer* spoke of him as a devoted and energetic member of the Baptist Church at Red Bank, which he had helped in many ways,

on the 24th of December, 1856, very happily married to Susan McClane, who now survives him. She was the daughter of Jonathan McClane, one of the most prominent and respected citizens of the county, whose attractive residence was situated on the north shore of the Shrewsbury River. The children of this union were Willie M. and Charles J. M. Smith, the eldest of whom, a child of uncommon promise, died in youth. Charles J. M. Smith, the youngest and surviving son, is now living on the homestead, which



has not been allowed to deteriorate, but is constantly being improved, in a way which indicates both good taste and executive ability. Mr. Smith was interred at Fairview Cemetery, in a circular lot, inclosed with granite. The monument commemorating his death is said to be the largest in the State. It is of Quincy granite, bearing the appropriate inscription, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

JOSEPH I. THOMPSON is the grandson of

ceived such educational advantages as the district school afforded. He chose the blacksmith's trade, and became an apprentice in Middletown township, afterwards conducting his trade at Black's Mills, Manalapan township. In 1844 he received the appointment of attendant of the light-house at the Highlands of Navesink, and remained for five years thus occupied, building at this point the favorite resort known as Thompson's Atlantic Pavilion. Desiring to become interested in agriculture, he, in 1867,



*Joseph I. Thompson*

Joseph Thompson, a farmer on an extensive scale in Freehold township, who married Sarah Conover. Among their children was John I., born in 1776, who married Margaret Walton, born in 1780, daughter of Elisha Walton, of Revolutionary fame. Their children were William, Emeline, Joseph I., Elisha, Mary Matilda (Mrs. John Little), Sally and Ann (Mrs. Uriah Smalley). Joseph I., the second son, was born on the 24th of February, 1811, at Mount's Corners, near Freehold, where in youth he re-

purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres, in Middletown township, and has since been absorbed in its cultivation. He was, on the 28th of December, 1834, married to Eleanor Schureman Johnson, granddaughter of Cornelius Johnson, and daughter of Dr. Cornelius Johnson, a graduate of Princeton and of the leading Philadelphia medical college of his day, whose only son, James Schureman, was a graduate of Rutgers College, New Brunswick. Mrs. Thompson is





the maternal granddaughter of James and Eleanor Schureman. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are John I.; Eleanor J., wife of Eugene W. Benton; Cornelius J.; and Margaret M. (Mrs. John N. Riker).

Mr. Thompson has always been identified in politics with the Democratic party. His popularity in the county led to his election, in 1859, to the office of sheriff, though aside from this distinction he has declined all proffers of official position. He was formerly director of the

His education, under not very efficient teachers, was necessarily limited, the absence of his father, during his frequent voyages, making an active and industrious life a necessity with the older children. Each assisted on the farm or in the store, Thomas being, until twenty years of age, chiefly employed upon the farm. He then entered his father's store, and in 1840 succeeded him in business, the latter retiring to his farm, where he resided until his death, July 19, 1872. On the 5th of February, 1840,



*Thomas Leonard*

Sandy Hook and Long Branch Railroad, and interested in other business projects, though his time is principally given to his farm and hotel enterprises. He is a contributor to the support of the Middletown Reformed (Dutch) Church, of which Mrs. Thompson is a member.

THOMAS LEONARD, son of William and Elizabeth (Applegate) Leonard, was born September 5, 1815, on the property at present occupied by him, which has been his lifetime residence.

Thomas Leonard married Mary A., daughter of James and Patience Hopping, of Middletown. Their children are James H. (born January 8, 1841), Thomas H. (June 30, 1843), Edward H. (February 13, 1853) and John J. (born March 6, 1856). Mr. Leonard, by his influence, succeeded at this time in having a post-office established at Leonardsville, and received the appointment of postmaster, with the office located in his store. In 1882 he retired from business, his son, Edward H., being his successor on the



site which has been continuously occupied by the family for a period of seventy years. The remaining sons are established in successful business enterprises at Atlantic Highlands. Mr. Leonard, on the organization of the Atlantic Highlands Association, was elected its treasurer, and fills the same office in connection with the New York and Atlantic Highlands Railroad. He was formerly, in his political associations, a Democrat, but later became a Republican. He has been, like his brother, Richard A., actively

years of age. Having worked upon a farm from the time he was thirteen until about seventeen, he spent three years in learning the cooper's trade. Before the age of twenty he had completed his apprenticeship, and shortly after went to England. Very soon, in a way undiscerned by himself, the Lord began to direct his steps to the land wherein many labors, trials and triumphs awaited him. He sailed in 1803 from Dublin for America, and after a passage of five weeks reached New York.



THOMAS ROBERTS.

identified with the temperance cause, to which he has given his means and influence for more than one-half a century. His religious creed is that of the Baptist Church, in which he has been for years a deacon and an exemplary member for more than half a century.

REV. THOMAS ROBERTS was born in Denbighshire, North Wales, on the 12th of June, 1783. His father died when he was about five

In May, 1804, he sailed for Madras, in the East Indies, in company with four Baptist missionaries; from there to Prince of Wales Island, near the Straits of Malacca, and thence to Madras, from which city they returned to New York in 1805. While in New Jersey, Mr. Roberts met and married Elizabeth, daughter of John Rutan, May 25, 1806. To this union were born ten children,—Thomas (married to Mary Griggs, of Freehold), Elizabeth (wife of





Richard A. Leonard), John (married to M. Lavina Patnam), Elisha (married to Naomi Jones), Mary (wife of Edmund Morris), William S. (who died in youth), Nathaniel (married to Phoebe M. Rowlands), Sarah (married to Richard A. Leonard), Daniel (married to Eleanor V. Arrowsmith) and a daughter who died in infancy.

Mr. Roberts was baptized on the 8th of March, 1807, and being urged to use his gift in exhortation, complied, without the most distant idea of preaching the gospel. In 1808 he removed to Utica, and united with the First Baptist Church, laboring meanwhile in Utica, Trenton and Holland Patent. He also preached at Albany to the few Baptists who assembled in the court-house, conducting service in the morning in English and in the evening in Welsh at a private house. He subsequently removed to the Great Valley (Pa.) Baptist Church, and for eight years labored fervently with this people. In 1821, under the auspices of the Acting Board of Foreign Missions, he organized a mission to preach the gospel and establish schools among the Cherokee Indians, where he labored for two years, when it was deemed necessary for him to return to present the claims of the mission. While traveling in New York and New Jersey to solicit aid among the churches for the Cherokee mission, he visited Middletown, Monmouth County, where he was afterwards called, and remained in this chosen field for thirteen years, preaching with marked acceptance and profit to the church and community. In 1837 he removed to South Trenton, N. Y., and took charge of the Holland Patent Church, also preaching for two years at South Trenton and at Deerfield Corners. In April, 1843, he removed to Utica to be near his charge, and on the 18th of October of the same year was deprived of the companionship of his most devoted wife. Removing, in May, 1844, to Middletown, in the fall of the same year he took charge of the Pennypack Church, in Pennsylvania, where he continued four years as pastor, having married Eleanor, widow of Rev. David Jones, the former incumbent. He devoted the following three years to the pastorate of the Holmesburg Church, and in 1851 returned with his wife to

Middletown. He supplied the Navesink Baptist Church until a pastor was installed, after which he preached, by invitation, among the many churches of his acquaintance. His wife having died in 1859, Mr. Roberts found a home with his youngest son, continuing to preach, as strength permitted, for the churches in the vicinity, and as a patriarch among his children was welcomed with veneration and love. After eighty-two years of pilgrimage the messenger for whom he had patiently waited came. On the 24th of September, 1865, his spirit passed to the Saviour, whose death and glorious resurrection he had proclaimed so often and earnestly, leaving his brethren the legacy of his meek, laborious and persevering example.

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WILLIAM B. HENDRICKSON is a grandson of Daniel Hendrickson, a Revolutionary soldier, who resided upon land now owned by the subject of this sketch. His children were Daniel D. and William, both of whom settled in Monmouth County. The former, born in 1786, who figured conspicuously as captain of the largest company raised in the county for the War of 1812, though by trade a cabinet-maker, was also a successful farmer. He married Catharine, daughter of Thomas Bedle, of the same township. Among their thirteen children is William B., the twelfth in order of birth, who is a native of Middletown township, and was born February 10, 1830, on the homestead, where he has since resided. With the exception of the limited period in youth devoted to instruction at the neighboring public-school, his life has been a busy routine of labor peculiar to the farmer. After becoming thoroughly familiar with all departments of agriculture he, at the age of eighteen, assumed the charge of his father's interests, and continued thus engaged until the death of the latter, when, by inheritance and purchase, he became owner of the property, to which he has since at various times made considerable additions. Always a farmer, Mr. Hendrickson, though interested in the raising of the staple grains, has met with signal success in fruit-culture, to which much labor and attention is given. He was, on the 24th of November, 1852, married to Miss



Catherine L., daughter of Joseph S. Applegate, of the same township, their children being Eva Lilly, who graduated at the Freehold Young Ladies' Seminary, and Daniel D., a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, engaged in practice in his native township. Mr. Hendrickson has been for years identified with public affairs in both township and county, having been for six years a chosen freeholder, and, in 1872, elected to the State

GEORGE MORFORD.—The Morford family are of English descent. William Morford, the grandfather of George Morford, resided in that portion of Middletown township now known as New Monmouth, where he was engaged in the employments of a farmer. He married Lydia Stout, whose children were twelve in number, the survivors being William, Thomas, Charles, Elias, Lydia (Mrs. John Taylor), Sarah (Mrs. Grover Taylor), Mary (Mrs. Walter Parsons)



*William B. Hendrickson*

Legislature, as a Democrat, in a district strongly Republican, and by a flattering majority. He was an active member of various important committees. He has, however, been more recently engrossed in the management of his private business interests, and gives little time to public matters. Mr. Hendrickson is a liberal supporter of the Middletown Baptist Church, of which Mrs. Hendrickson is a member.

and Luey (Mrs. James J. Taylor). William Morford was born September 23, 1796, on the homestead, and married Elizabeth Willett, whose birth occurred February 14, 1794. Their children are James, born in 1819; Henry, in 1823; Elizabeth (Mrs. Benjamin Frost,) in 1830; and Margaret, in 1832. Mrs. Morford's death occurred in January, 1835, and Mr. Morford was again married, in October, 1836, to Joanna, daughter of Nicholas and Mary Johnson, whose





children are Margaret, born in 1840, and George, October 18, 1844. Henry, the second son in order of birth, attained distinction as an author, having founded the *New Jersey Standard*, at Matawan, which for several years he edited, subsequently becoming editorially connected with the *New York Atlas*. Among his publications are "Rhymes of Twenty Years," "Over Sea" and "Paris and Half Europe." He also held the appointments of reader for the New York Board of Aldermen and clerk of the City Court. His

a pronounced Whig, and later a Republican, holding the office of justice of the peace, and wielding an extended influence in public affairs. He was connected by membership with the Middletown Baptist Church, from which he transferred his connection to the Port Monmouth Church of the same denomination. His death occurred April 28, 1868, in his seventy-second year. The birth of his son George occurred on the homestead, where his life has chiefly been spent. Receiving such instruction as the neigh-



*Geo Morford*

death occurred in August, 1881. William Morford, soon after his marriage, removed, to the house now occupied by his son George, at New Monmouth, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, continuing thus employed for a period of more than forty years, and at a later date embarking with his brothers in the coal and lumber business. He was one of the originators of the earliest transportation company, and largely identified with township and county matters. In his political predilections he was

boring public school afforded, he at once engaged in farming, and on the death of his father assumed the management of the property, which has been continued until the present time. He was, on the 20th of November, 1867, married to Miss Emeline, daughter of Jacob H. and Hannah Masker, of Newark, N. J. Their children are William, born July 3, 1869; George, July 11, 1874 (deceased); Alice, August 19, 1877; and Harry, August 19, 1881. Mr. Morford is actively engaged in business interests



aside from farming, as director of the First National Bank of Red Bank, and as director and former president and treasurer of the Port Monmouth Steamboat Company. He is also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. A Republican in his political associations and an influential representative of the party, having for years been a member of the executive committee of the county, he has invariably declined office other than that of trustee of the

dependence from British aggression. After acquiring the trade of a carpenter he removed to Monmouth County in 1801, where he for some time followed that vocation, but subsequently became a farmer and also a distiller. He was married to Mary Whitlock, and to them were born eight children, five sons and three daughters, viz.: John W., Lydia, William, Edmund, Richard, Benjamin, Mary and a daughter who died in infancy.



*Benjamin Griggs*

school district of his township. He adheres to the religious faith of the family, and is a member and trustee of the Port Monmouth Baptist Church.

**CAPTAIN BENJAMIN GRIGGS.**—Benjamin Griggs, the grandfather of Captain Benjamin Griggs, was born in the county of Middlesex, N. J., in the memorable year of 1774, directly preceding the struggle of the colonies for in-

dependence from British aggression. After acquiring the trade of a carpenter he removed to Monmouth County in 1801, where he for some time followed that vocation, but subsequently became a farmer and also a distiller. He was married to Mary Whitlock, and to them were born eight children, five sons and three daughters, viz.: John W., Lydia, William, Edmund, Richard, Benjamin, Mary and a daughter who died in infancy.

William, the second son, was born November 20, 1808, at Freehold, and followed the trade of a blacksmith. He married Lydia A. Holman, of Monmouth County, and was the father of a family of seven children, of whom Benjamin, the subject of this sketch, was the third. The children of this union were William A., Augustus (deceased), Edgar, Benjamin, Henry, Adelia (married to Daniel B. Frost) and Augusta. Mr. Griggs was prominently identified with local





political affairs and was one of the first pioneers in steamboat enterprises. William Griggs died March 21, 1878.

Benjamin Griggs was born at New Monmouth, formerly Chanceville, on July 10, 1842. He received in his youth the education generally obtained at the common schools, and afterwards followed the life of a farmer for some years. In 1869 he became clerk upon the

He was elected a member of the State Legislature in 1881, and has served on the committees on fisheries and passed bills. He is prominently identified with all matters of public interest in his locality and is a public-spirited citizen of worth and one that is universally respected by his neighbors. Captain Griggs is a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and worships at the Baptist Church



*James H. Leonard*

freight-boat "Orient," plying between Port Monmouth and New York City. His application and the confidence he inspired by his ability raised him in a short time to the command of the boat, of which he became captain in 1873, which position he successfully filled up to the year 1880, when he built a new vessel. He continues to follow the profession of a mariner, and owns shares in vessels other than that which he commands.

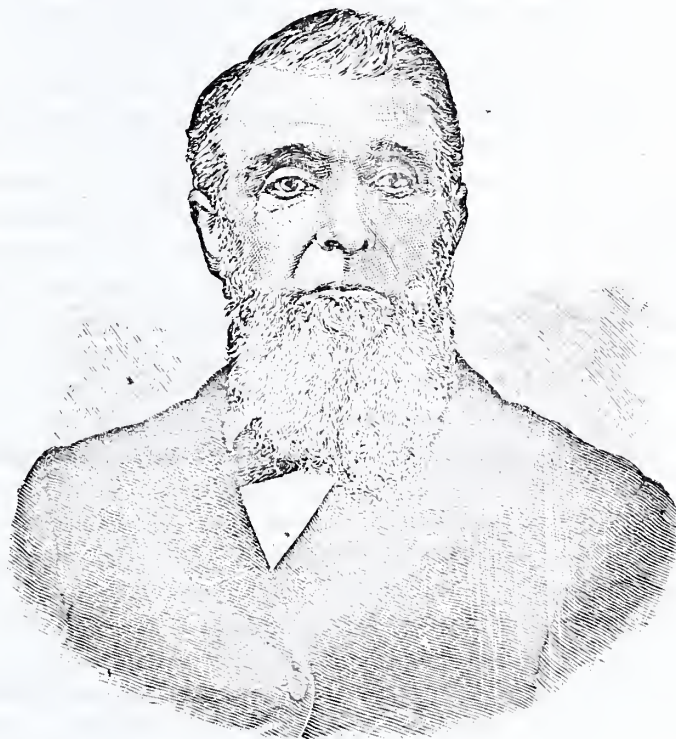
of New Monmouth, of which he is a trustee. On January 2, 1873, he was united in marriage to Martha S. Wilson, daughter of the Rev. W. V. Wilson, of Port Monmouth.

CAPTAIN JAMES H. LEONARD, the eldest son of Thomas, above mentioned, was born on the homestead of his grandfather, at Leonardsville, where the years of his boyhood were spent. After a period at school he entered his father's



store as clerk, and remained four years thus employed; but preferring a less sedentary life, abandoned for the time mercantile pursuits and retired to the farm. He was, on the 17th of November, 1863, married to Emma C., daughter of James J. Taylor, of Atlantic township. Their children are Mary, born April 8, 1866; George T., born August 3, 1872, who died in his second year; and Albert T., whose birth occurred March 27, 1875. Captain Leonard, after

est in a very productive farm in Middletown township. Captain Leonard is in politics a staunch Republican, and has wielded an extended and salutary influence in his township on questions of public import. He was, in 1875, elected to the office of assessor, and the year following chosen to represent his district in the State Legislature. He used much of his time and means in the successful effort to obtain railroad and steamboat accommodations to Atlantic



*Edward Hooper*

his marriage, purchased and removed to a farm in Middletown, which he cultivated for a period of fifteen years. This property was subsequently sold and divided into lots, and is now included in a portion of Atlantic Highlands. He also became interested in a steamboat line plying between Atlantic Highlands and New York, and for three years acted as captain of the vessel. He, in 1882, embarked again in mercantile enterprises, but still retains his inter-

Highlands and vicinity. He is connected by membership with the Navesink Baptist Church, in which he fills the office of trustee.

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EDWARD HOOPER.—Mr. Hooper is of English descent, his grandfather having been Joseph Hooper, a lineal descendant of William Hooper, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He first settled in Middlesex County, and afterwards removed to Monmouth





County, N. J., meanwhile marrying Elizabeth Hartman, whose children were Joseph, William, Samuel and Rebecca. Samuel, who was born in Monmouth County, served in the War of 1812 as captain in one of the New Jersey regiments, and subsequently became a farmer. He married Ursula, daughter of Jonathan Bowne, whose children are Richard, Eleanor, Edward, William, Samuel and Jonathan. Captain Hooper was prominently associated with the social and business interests of the county, and exerted no little influence in matters of a public character. His son Edward was born October 6, 1820, on the family estate in Middletown township, his father having been the owner of an extensive tract of land there located. His son, the subject of this biographical sketch, enjoyed thorough advantages of education, and, desiring to engage in active out-of-door employments, assumed supervision of the farm. This property was eventually embraced in the popular seaside resort known as Atlantic Highlands, Mr. Hooper being the leading spirit in this enterprise. He has manifested much liberality in all matters pertaining to the development of the place, always stipulating that the traffic in liquor should receive no encouragement from its residents. From his youth to the present time Mr. Hooper has been a staunch advocate of the temperance cause, which has received from him substantial support and aid. He is identified with all movements having for their purpose the encouragement of morality and the suppression of vice in the community. Mr. Hooper was formerly a member of the Baptist Church of Middletown, and later of the Navesink Baptist Church, of which he is now the clerk. He was, in 1884, married to Miss Elizabeth Mansfield. Miss Rebecca Hooper, whose death occurred in 1830, aged fifty-five years, was no less favorably known for her superior mental endowments than for her attractive social gifts. She enjoyed the acquaintance of many distinguished people, and rendered her home the centre of a refined hospitality.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

## SHREWSBURY TOWNSHIP AND THE TOWN OF RED BANK.

SHREWSBURY was one (Middletown being the other) of the "Two Towns of Navesink" in which the first settlements in what afterwards became Monmouth County were made, under the concessions of the "Monmouth Patent," granted by Governor Richard Nicolls, to William Goulding and associates, in 1665. An extended account of these pioneer settlements in Shrewsbury and Middletown has already been given in the chapter on Early Settlements and Land Titles.

In 1693 the three original townships of Monmouth County—Shrewsbury, Middletown and Freehold—were laid out and erected by an act passed by the Provincial Assembly, and approved by Governor Hamilton on the 31st of October in that year. The part of that act which has reference to the formation of Shrewsbury is as follows: "The township of Shrewsbury includes all the land from the mouth of Neversink River, and runs up the said river and Swimming River and Saw-Mill Brook to Burlington Path; thence, the nearest way, over to Maunassan River or brook, where Piscataunck Brook comes into the same; thence, the nearest way, to the Pines, and along the edge of the Pines to Burlington path, and along Burlington Path to the Pine Brook, and along the edge of the Pines to the line of the Province, and along the Province Line to the Sea, and thence along the Shore to where it began." Thus the old township of Shrewsbury embraced all the eastern part of the county, from Navesink River southward to Little Egg Harbor, including the greater part of the territory of the present county of Ocean.

In 1749 the southwest part of Shrewsbury township was cut off and erected into the township of Stafford (now in Ocean County) by patent from King George the Second, signed by Governor Jonathan Belcher, dated at Burlington, March 3d of the year named. The patent recites and declares:

"That we, of our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, have given and granted, and by



these presents do give and grant, for us, our heirs and successors, to the inhabitants of the southwestern part of the Township of Shrewsbury, in the county of Monmouth, in our Province of New Jersey, within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at old Barnegat Inlet, and from the north end of the beach lying to the southward of the said Inlet, running over the Bay north, forty-six degrees west, five miles and thirty-seven chains to the mouth of Oyster Creek, and then west eleven miles and seventy chains to a Pine tree in the southwest plain in the old partition line of East and West Jersey, formerly run by George Keith; thence bounded by the old division line south, nineteen degrees east, nineteen miles and sixty chains to the south stationary point of division between East and West Jersey, at the main sea; thence northeasterly to the place of beginning, according to the plan hereto annexed; to be and remain a perpetual township and community in word and deed, to be called and known by the name of the township of Stafford."

After this rednetion of its territory, Shrewsbury still embraced all from Navesink River southward to the south side of Barnegat Inlet. This was a source of great inconvenience to a large number of the inhabitants of Shrewsbury, who, in 1767, presented a petition to the Assembly, then in session at Burlington, setting forth the difficulties under which they labored "by reason of the large extent of said Town," and asking for relief by a division of its territory; upon which an act was passed "to divide the town of Shrewsbury and annex parts thereof to the Towns of Freehold and Upper Freehold," which act provided,—“That all that part of said Town of Shrewsbury beginning at Cranberry Inlet and running thence up the Bay to the mouth of Metetecunk River; thence up the said River to the first bridge, which now is over the said River; thence west until it shall intersect a line to be run south, eighteen degrees west, from the place where the Burlington Old Path crosseth the north Branch of Tom's River, called Pine Brook; thence from the intersection of the said lines south, fifty-six degrees west, to the old division line called Keith's line; thence along said Keith's line to the line of the Town of Stafford; thence along the same to the main sea or ocean; and thence, bounded by the sea, to the above mentioned beginning; shall be, and is hereby, divided off from the said Township, and made a separate Town, to be called by the

name of the town of Dover." By other sections of the same act, portions of Shrewsbury township lying in what is now Ocean County were annexed to Freehold and Upper Freehold, as is more fully mentioned in the histories of those townships.

The area of Shrewsbury was further reduced by the taking of parts of its territory to form Howell township in 1881; Atlantic township in 1847, Ocean township in 1849 and Eatontown township in 1873. The histories of those townships include descriptions of the territory thus taken at the times mentioned, by which Shrewsbury was reduced to its present limits. The township as it now exists is bounded north by Navesink River, Swimming River and Hop Brook, which separates it from Middletown; east by Shrewsbury River and the townships of Eatontown, Ocean and Neptune; south by Shrewsbury River and the townships of Eatontown and Wall; and west by the townships of Wall, Atlantic and Middletown. The only streams of importance in Shrewsbury township are the Navesink and Shrewsbury (sometimes called the North and South Shrewsbury) Rivers, both of which flow in a northeasterly and then a northerly course, and, uniting their waters, empty into Sandy Hook Bay. The railway lines of Shrewsbury are the New York and Long Branch Railroad, which crosses the township in a southeast direction from Red Bank; and the New Jersey Southern, which enters the township at Red Bank, runs thence south into Eatontown, then re-enters Shrewsbury and crosses it, running in a southwesterly direction into Atlantic township, on the route to Farmingdale, Lakewood and Tom's River. The population of Shrewsbury township by the United States census of 1880 was six thousand five hundred and twenty-six.

Following is a list of chosen freeholders of Shrewsbury township, from the time when the board became an independent body<sup>1</sup> to the present, viz.:

<sup>1</sup> The Board of Freeholders became an independent body in 1798. Prior to that time they had exercised their official powers in conjunction with the justices of the county.





1793-1804. Theophilus Little.  
 1796-1802. Jacob Holmes.  
 1805-9. Robert Evilman.  
 1806-7. Thomas Morford.  
 1827-47. Elisha Lippincott.  
 1839-46. William R. Maps.  
 1847-48. Henry Wolcott, Jr.  
 1848. Henry Howland.  
 1849-50. Michael Taylor.  
 1849-53. John R. Conover.  
 1854-55. Samuel T. Hendrickson.  
 1856. John E. Norris.  
 1857-59. Robert W. Brower.  
 1860-62. John W. Parker.  
 1863-64. Samuel T. Hendrickson.  
 1865-72. William T. Conover.  
 1873-74. Corlies W. Thompson.  
 1875-77. Richard Applegate.  
 1878-80. James S. Throckmorton.  
 1880-84. Jacob Shults.

The old village of Shrewsbury lies about one and a half miles south of Red Bank, at a "four corners" formed by the crossing of the Red Bank and Eatontown turnpike and the Tinton Falls and Rumson Neck road, which latter is at this point identical with a King's highway which was laid out as such by the road commissioners of Monmouth County in 1685,—just two centuries ago,—to pass through the Shrewsbury settlement, which, even then, was twenty years old, and contained a Friends' Meeting-house, which had been erected in 1672. The successor of that old meeting-house still forms a part of the village, and there are also here two other churches (Presbyterian and Episcopalian) which date their origin back to years prior to 1790.

In 1695 the land in the northeastern angle of the Shrewsbury four corners was owned by John Lippincott, except that lot which he sold (for a nominal sum) to the Friends for a meeting-house. In 1706, Nicholas Brown owned the southeast corner and sold to the Episcopalians, a part of his farm on which Christ Church was erected. John West also lived near here and owned the "Great House," at which place the first election for freeholders of the township took place, in March, 1710. Samuel Dennis also lived here. He was a judge of the courts from 1704 to his death. He was buried in Shrewsbury, and his tombstone gives his history as follows:

"Here lies, in hopes of a joyful resurrection, Samuel Dennis, who came from Great Britain to this place A.D., 1675, and lived here to the day of his death, which was the 7th of June, 1723, aged seventy-two years and six months, leaving issue two sons and three daughters by his only wife, Increase, who departed this life twenty-eight years before him."

Jedediah Allen lived on the northwest corner, where Dr. Edmund W. Allen, a great-grandson, was born, in 1788, and where he lived until his death, in 1867. His son Joseph now resides on the homestead.

Among the prominent men who settled in Shrewsbury was Samuel Breese, whose father, Sidney Breese, was a merchant in New York, but who owned considerable property in this county. Samuel married Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Finley, and came to this village and settled in 1767. She died the next year, leaving a daughter, who afterwards became the wife of the Rev. Jedediah Morse, whose school geography is well known. From this family Samuel Finley Breese Morse, the discoverer of the magnetic telegraph, was descended. The second wife of Samuel Breese was a daughter of John Garland, of New York City. He was for many years a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church. He was also a colonel of provincial troops during the Revolution. He died in 1801, and was buried in the Presbyterian Churchyard. His son, Samuel S. Breese, resided in the village, and was the postmaster appointed upon the establishment of the office, January 1, 1796.

About 1732, Theodosius Bartow, a counselor-at-law, settled at Shrewsbury, where he died October 5, 1746, and was buried under the right aisle of Christ Church. His wife was Ann Stillwell. He received a promise from her on his death-bed that their unborn child should be named after himself. The child was a girl and was named Theodosia, who afterwards became the wife of Colonel Frederick Prevost and subsequently the wife of Aaron Burr, and from whom their ill-fated daughter, Theodosia (the wife of Governor Allston, of South Carolina), took her name. Theodosius Bartow was a son of the Rev. John Bartow, of England, a missionary from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.



He married Helena, daughter of John Reid, of Freehold township, in 1706, and settled as rector of St. Peter's Church, in Westchester, N. Y., where he died in 1726.

An old house which stood on the north of and adjoining the Friends' Meeting-house lot, and which was taken down in 1879, is believed to have been built in 1746, as in taking it down a brick was found in one of the chimneys bearing the words and figures: "Michael White, his brick, 1746." In 1800 the house belonged to Jacob Holmes, and in 1821 it passed to Benjamin Stevens, who was the father of John L. Stevens, the author. There are now in the old village many elegant residences and finely laid-out grounds, along the quiet roads, which are shaded with sycamores, whose great size indicates that they were contemporary with the churches and old residences.

The post-office at Shrewsbury was established January 1, 1796, with Samuel S. Breese, postmaster. He was succeeded, March 3, 1804, by Benjamin White, Jr., who served until about 1833. He was succeeded by E. H. Van Uxem, Joseph Allen, — Lippincott, Theodore Sickles, George D. Bradford and the present incumbent, A. H. Borden.

THE FRIENDS' MEETING and Meeting-house at Old Shrewsbury were in existence more than two centuries ago. Concerning them, the earliest information is gained from the journals of John Burnyeate and George Fox, distinguished members of the Society of Friends; in company with them were Robert Withers, George Patison and others, some of whom returned by the same route a few months afterwards. These noted Quaker preachers left Maryland in the latter part of February, 1672, and arrived at New Castle, Del., about the 1st of March. The following is George Fox's account of the journey and also of his return trip:

"We departed thence from New Castle, Del., and got over the river not without great danger of some of our lives. When we were got over we were troubled to procure guides, which were hard to get and very changeable. Then had we that wilderness to pass through since called West Jersey, not then inhabited by English; so that we have travelled a whole day together without seeing man or woman, house or

dwelling-place. Sometimes we lay in the woods by a fire and sometimes in the Indians' wigwams or houses. We came one night to an Indian town and lay at the King's house, who was a very pretty man. Both he and his wife received us very lovingly, and his attendants (such as they were) were very respectful to us. They laid us mats to lie on; but provision, was very short with them, having caught but little that day. At another Indian town where we staid, the King came to us and he could speak some English. I spoke to him much, and also to his people, and they were very loving to us. At length we came to Middletown, an English plantation in East Jersey, and there were friends there, but we could not stay to have a meeting at that time, being so earnestly pressed in our spirits to get to the half-yearly meeting of Friends of Oyster Bay, Long Island, which was near at hand. We went with a friend, Richard Hartshorne, brother to Hugh Hartshorne, the upholsterer in London, who received us gladly to his house, where we refreshed ourselves, and then he carried us and our horses in his own boat over a great water, which held us most part of the day in getting over, and set us upon Long Island."

From thence Fox proceeded to Gravesend, L. I. In June following he returned to New Jersey. Of his return trip he writes as follows:

"Being clear of this place we hired a sloop, and the wind serving, set out for the new country now called Jersey. Passing down the bay by Conny Island, Naton Island and Stratton Island, we came to Richard Hartshorne, at Middleton harbor, about break of day on the 27th of sixth month. Next day we rode about thirty miles into that country, through the woods and over very bad bogs, one worse than all the rest, the descent into which was so steep that we were fain to slide down with our horses and then let them lie and breathe themselves before they go on. This place the people of the place called Purgatory. We got at length to Shrewsbury, in East Jersey, and on First day had a precious meeting there, to which Friends and other people came far, and the blessed presence of the Lord was with us. The same week we had a men and women's meeting out of most parts of New Jersey. They are building a meeting-place in the midst of them, and there is a monthly and a general meeting set up, which will be of great service in those parts in keeping up the gospel order and government of Christ Jesus, of the increase of which there is no end, that they who are faithful may see that all who profess the holy truth live in pure religion and walk as becometh the gospel. While we were at Shrewsbury an accident befel, which for a time was a great exercise to us.

"John Jay, a friend of Barbadoes, who came with us from Rhode Island, and intended to accompany us through the woods to Maryland, being to try a horse, got upon his back, and the horse fell a running, cast





him down upon his head and broke his neck, as the people said. Those that were near him took him up as dead, carried him a good way and laid him on a tree. I got to him as soon I could, and feeling him, concluded he was dead. As I stood pitying him and his family, I took hold of his hair, and his head turned any way, his neck was so limber. Whereupon I took his head in both my hands and setting my knees against the tree, I raised his head and perceived there was nothing out or broken that way. Then I put one hand under his chin and the other behind his head, and raised his head two or three times with all my strength, and brought it in. I soon perceived his neck began to grow stiff again, and then he began to rattle in his throat, and quietly after to breathe. The people were amazed, but I bade them have a good heart, be of good faith and carry him into the house. They did so, and set him by the fire. I bid them get him something warm to drink and put him to bed. After he had been in the house a while he began to speak, but did not know where he had been. The next day we passed away and he with us, pretty well about sixteen miles to a meeting at Middletown, through woods and bogs, and over a river where we swam our horses, and got over ourselves upon a hollow tree. Many hundred miles did he travel with us after this.

"To this meeting came most of the people of the town. A glorious meeting we had, and the truth was over all, blessed be the great Lord God forever! After the meeting we went to Middletown harbor, about five miles, in order to take our long journey next morning through the woods towards Maryland, having hired Indians for our guides."

It is shown by these extracts that at that time the Friends were building a meeting-house at Shrewsbury. The exact locality of their first meeting-house is not known. Mention is also made of a "monthly and general meeting" being "set up." The society is now of the Shrewsbury Monthly, the Shrewsbury and Rahway Quarterly and the New York Monthly Meetings.

On the 5th of March, 1695, the Trustees of the Friends' Meeting of Shrewsbury—Jedediah Allen, Peter Tilton and Remembrance Lippincott—purchased of John Lippincott "all that piece or parcel of land situate and being at the southeast corner of the said Lippincott's great lot joining to Thomas — land, whereon his dwelling-house now stands, in breadth eight rods easterly, and in length twenty rods northerly, from thence running easterly eight rods, and from thence southerly twenty rods, to the

place of beginning," abutting southward upon the highway, east and north on John Lippincott and westward upon the highway, containing one acre of land, in trust "for the poor people called Quakers." Upon this lot the Friends erected a brick meeting-house, which was used until 1816.

George Keith, who came to this country in 1685, was at that time a member of the Society of Friends. He was prominent in the erection of the Friends Meeting-House at Topanemus, in 1692. Soon afterwards he returned to England, and while there became a convert to Episcopalianism, and in April, 1702, returned to this country as a missionary for that church. He came to this society and proselyted among them, winning many over to the Episcopalian faith, some of whom were of the founders of Christ Church.

On the 19th of August, 1717, the Friends bought of Preserved Lippincott, a half-acre of ground adjoining their land, and in 1816, when the present meeting-house was built, it was erected on both lots. It is a frame building forty by sixty feet in size, and shingled on the sides as well as on the roof.

The division among the Friends in 1827-28 reached this society. The Hicksites retained the meeting-house and lot, and the Orthodox rented a building, in which they worshiped until 1842, when they purchased a lot on the turnpike leading to Red Bank, and erected a meeting-house, which they used until April, 1880, when it was sold. The building was moved across the road, and is now Library Hall. The Orthodox Society is nearly extinct. The Hicksites have a membership of about seventy. The speakers who have preached here have been Elizabeth Hunt and Ann Hopkins, who began about 1820; Joseph Woleott began speaking about 1828. He was followed by Joseph Lafetra, Sarah Underwood and Racheal C. Tilton, the last mentioned of whom is now speaker.

CHRIST CHURCH (Episcopal) of Shrewsbury and Christ Church of Middletown are identical in that part of their history extending down to 1854, when the church property was divided, and each became a separate parish.



Probably the most zealous churchman in this county in 1700 was Lewis Morris, of Tinton Manor, afterwards Governor of New Jersey. He was a son of Richard Morris, of Morrisania, N. Y., and a nephew of Colonel Lewis Morris, who purchased a large tract of land at the Falls of Shrewsbury (Tinton Falls), and died in 1692, leaving his estate to this nephew, Lewis Morris, who settled upon it. In the year 1700 (being then president of the Council of East New Jersey) he addressed a letter to the bishop of London concerning the state of religion in the two provinces. After writing of the province in general, he mentioned each of the ten towns of East New Jersey. Of Freehold he said: "It was settled from Scotland (Mr. Keith began the first settlement there and made a fine plantation, which he afterwards sold and went into Pensilvania), and about the one-half of it are Scotch Presbyterians and a sober people; the other part of it was settled by People (some from New England, some from New York and some from the fore-mentioned towns) who are generally of no religion. There is in this town a Quaker Meeting-house, but most of the Quakers who built it are come off with Mr. Keith; they have not fixt yet on any religion, but are most inclinable to the Church, and could Mr. Keith be perswaded to go into those countrys, he would (with the blessing of God) not only bring to the Church the Quakers that come off with him in East and West Jersey, which are very numerous, but make many converts in that country." Of Shrewsbury, he says it was "settled from New England, Rhode Island and New York; there is in it ab<sup>t</sup> thirty Quakers of both sexes, and they have a meeting-house; the rest of the People are generally of no religion; the youth of the whole Province are very debauch'd and very ignorant, and the Sabbath-day seems to be set apart for Rioting and Drunkenness. . . . There was, in the year one thousand six hundred and ninety-seven, some endeavours to settle a maintenance in that country for ministers, and the greater part of the House of Commons then were for it; but one Richard Hartshorne, a Quaker, and Andrew Brown [Bowne], an Anabaptist, found means to defeat it that session, and before the Assembly

could sit again arriv'd one Jeremiah Bass, an Anabaptist Preacher, with a commission from the Proprietors of East Jersey to be their Governour, and with instructions and orders from them not to consent to any act to raise a maintenance for any minister of what persuasion soever, so that there is no hope of doing anything of that kind till that Governm is in other hands."

Morris closed his letter by saying: "I shall now suggest some measures w<sup>ch</sup> may conduce to y<sup>e</sup> bringing over to the church the People in those Countrys. First. That no man be sent a Governour into any of those Plantations but a firm Churehman, and, if possible, none but Churehmen be in his Counsel and in the Magistracy. 2<sup>ndly</sup>. That Churehmen may have some peculiar privileges above others. This (if practicable) must be done by Act of Parliament. 3<sup>rdly</sup>. That there may be some measures fallen upon to get ministers to preach gratis in America for some time till there be sufficient numbers of converts to bear the charge."

The communion of Lewis Morris was laid before the then recently organized<sup>1</sup> Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and, at the same time, there was received by the society a letter from the Rev. George Keith, containing the following:

"In East Jersey I have several friends that came off with me in the separation from the Quakers, and so continue, and, as I have been informed by a worthy gentleman, Colonel Morris, formerly my scholar, who has a family and a good estate in that Province, they are well prepared to receive a Church of England Minister among them. The fittest places to set up a Church congregation are Amboy and the Falls in Shrewsbury, where Colonel Morris has his house and estate. There is not one Church of England as yet in either West or East Jersey,—the more is the pity; and, except in two or three towns, there is no place of any public worship of any sort, but the people live very mean, *like Indians*."

The Rev. George Keith was appointed the

<sup>1</sup> The society was chartered by William III. of England, June 16, 1701.





first missionary of the society, with instructions to visit America. Lewis Morris visited England on official business in 1701-2 and sailed for America in the same vessel ("Centurion") with Keith, the Rev. Patrick Gordon, another missionary, and Colonel Dudley, Governor of New England. They embarked April 24, 1702, and landed at Boston, June 11, 1702. The chaplain of the "Centurion," John Talbot, was so deeply impressed with Mr. Keith's undertaking that he left the ship and accompanied him on his mission. On the 10th of October they arrived at Topanemus, where they officiated on the following day. The preaching at this place resulted in the formation of St. Peter's Church at Topanemus (now at Freehold). The following extracts are from Mr. Keith's journal:

"Sunday, October 17th, 1702.—I preached at Middletown, in East Jersey, where, before sermon, Mr. Talbot read the Church Prayers, and I preached on Matt. 28 : 19-20, one main part of my sermon being to prove Infant baptism to be included in the Apostle's commission, as well as that of adult persons, their being several of the audience who were Anabaptists, who heard me civilly without interruption; but most of the auditory were Church people or well affected to the Church.

"October 24th, 1702.—I preached at Shrewsbury, at a house near the Quaker Meeting-House, and it happened it was the time of the Quaker Yearly Meeting at Shrewsbury. My text was 2d Peter, 2 : 1-2. The Church Prayers being read before sermon, we had a great congregation, generally well affected to the Church, and divers of them were of the Church, and that day I sent some lines in writing to the Quakers at their Yearly Meeting; which Mr. Talbot did read to them in their meeting, wherein I desired them to give me a meeting with them some day of that week before their meeting was concluded; in which meeting I offered to detect great errors in their Author's books, and they should have full liberty to answer what they had to say in their vindication. But they altogether refused my proposition, and several papers passed betwixt us. In some of their papers they used gross reflections on the Church of England as much as on me. We continued our meeting three days, as the Quakers did theirs. And the second day of our meeting at the same house, where we had formerly met, I detected Quaker errors out of their printed books, particularly out of the Folio Book of *Edward Burroughs' Works*, collected and published by the Quakers after his death, and did read quotations to the Auditory, laying the pages open before such as were willing to

read them for their better satisfaction, as some did read them.

"October 26th.—I preached again at Shrewsbury, on Matt. 7 : 13. In these meetings in Shrewsbury, Middletown and *Toponemes*, or where else in the Nethesinks, Mr. Louis Morris and divers others of the best note in that county frequented the congregations and places where we preached and did kindly entertain us at their houses, where we lodged as we travelled too and again, particularly at Mr. Morris, Mr. Inness, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Boels and Mr. Read. Mr. Inness being in Priest's orders often preached among them and by preaching and conferences frequently with the Quakers and other sorts of people, as also by his pious conversation, has done much good among them and been very instrumental to draw them off from their errors and bring them over to the Church."

Mr. Keith left Monmouth about the last of October, 1702, for Burlington and elsewhere. He returned in December, and says,—

"December 20th, 1702.—I preached at Dr. Johnston's at Nethersinks, on Rev. 22 : 14.

"Dec. 25th, Friday, being Christmas.—I preached at the house of Mr. Morris, on Luke 21 : 10-11. And after sermon divers of the auditory received with us the Holy Sacrament; both Mr. Morris and his wife, and divers others. Mr. Talbot did administer it.

"December 27th, Sunday.—I preached at Shrewsbury Town, near the Quaker Meeting-House, at a Planter's house, and had a considerable auditory of Church people, lately converted from Quakerism, with divers others of the Church of best note in that part of the country. My text was Heb. 8 : 10-11."

"January 3d, 1703.—I preached again at his house on the same text, and before sermon Mr. Talbot baptized two persons belonging to the family of John Read, formerly a Quaker, but was lately come over to the Church, with all his children, one son and two daughters. His two daughters were baptized by Mr. Talbot, October 20th, 1702; as also the same day was baptized William Leads (Leeds?) and his sister Mary Leads, late converts from Quakerism to the Church.<sup>1</sup> And some days before, at the house of John Read, Mr. Talbot baptized the wife of Alexander Neaper and his

<sup>1</sup> William Leeds died in 1735, and by his will, made June 20th in that year, he left all his houses and lands to "the venerable and honourable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and to their successors forever, to and for the use and purpose following: that is to say, for the use and purpose of a perpetual glebe for the use and habitation of a Minister or Clergyman of the Church of England, as it is now by law established, that shall be a Missionary of the said Society, to preach the Gospel to inhabitants of Middletown and Shrewsbury." This land was in Middletown, and was equally divided in 1854.



three children. Both he and his wife had been Quakers, but were come over to the Church."

Mr. Keith after this proceeded to Burlington, Philadelphia, and so on to Maryland, Virginia and elsewhere; in October, 1703, he returned to Monmouth, and of his services here he adds in his journal the following: "October 17th, 1703.—I preached at Shrewsbury, near the Quaker Meeting-House there, on Psalms 103: 17, 18. October 24th.—I preached again there, on Heb. 8: 10, 11, and Mr. Inness baptized two men and a child."

On the 31st of October, Mr. Keith preached at Amboy, after which he proceeded to New York and New England. On his return he says: "January 9th, 1704.—I preached at the house of Dr. Johnston, in Neverthesinks, on Psalms 119: 5, 113, and had considerable auditory. January 16th.—I preached at Mr. Morris's house at the Falls of Shrewsbury, in East Jersey, on 2 Cor. 5: 17. January 23d.—I preached again at Mr. Morris's house, on 2 Peter 1: 5."

It will be noticed that Mr. Keith, under date of October 26, 1702, mentions Mr. Innes as "being in priest's orders" and preaching among the people. This was Alexander Innes, of Middletown, whose name is mentioned in the records of that township in 1689. After the departure of Keith and Talbot he continued preaching in Freehold, Shrewsbury and Middletown until his death, which occurred about 1713. He had given ten acres, on which Christ Church of Middletown now stands, and he left by his will five pounds each to the churches to which he preached. It was during his ministry (in 1708) that Queen Anne gave to the church of Shrewsbury and Middletown the communion service which is still used. The records of the church from the time of his death to 1733 are lost, and it is not known who ministered to them. In 1733 the Rev. John Forbes was sent out as a missionary and labored until 1738. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Miln. The charter of the church was granted by Governor Burnet for George II., June 3, 1738. The following-named were appointed vestrymen: William Leeds, Henry Leonard, John Throckmorton, Samuel Osborn, Thomas Morford, James Hutchins, Jeremiah Stillwell, John Redford, Jacob Dennis, Patrick Hill, Benjamin Cooper, Pontius Still, Samuel Pintard, Anthony Pintard and Josiah Holmes.

Mr. Miln was followed, in 1746, by the Rev. Thomas Thompson, who was sent out as a mis-

sionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. He kept a journal of his work, which was published,<sup>1</sup> and from which are taken the following extracts pertinent to this church:

"In the spring of the year 1745 I embarked for America, being appointed Missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts upon recommendation of my Reverend Tutor, Dr. Thomas Cartwright, late Archdeacon of Colchester and a member of the Society, myself then a Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge. I went in a ship called the 'Albany,' belonging to New York, which sailed from Gravesend on the 8th day of May, and providentially escaping some instant dangers on the passage, arrived at New York on the 29th of August. The Sunday following I preached both Morning and Afternoon at the Episcopal Church in that city, whereof the Reverend Mr. Commissary Vesey had then been rector more than forty years. On the next Sunday I passed over to Elizabethtown, in New Jersey, on my journey to Monmouth County in the Eastern Division where I was appointed to reside and have the care of Churches in that county, being also licensed thereto by the Right Reverend the late Lord Bishop of London.

"Being come to the place of my mission I presented my credentials and was kindly received and took the first opportunity of waiting upon the Governor, Lewis Morris, Esq., at his seat at Kingsbury, which is in the Western Division, and took the oath of allegiance and supremacy and also the abjuration oath and subscribed the Declaration in presence of his Excellency. Upon making inquiry into the state of the churches within my District, I found that the members were much disturbed and in a very unsettled state, inasmuch that some of them had thoughts of leaving our communion and turning to the Dissenters. The particular occasion of this I forbear to mention.

"As I came to gather more information, it presented to me that many of those who frequented the Church worship had never been baptized; some heads of families and several others of adult age, besides a number of young children and Infants.

"After some time they began to bring their children to Baptism, and when some had led the way, the rest followed, and presented those of their children which were under years of maturity, to be received into the Church and I christened thirteen in one day. After this it went on regularly. Parents had their children

<sup>1</sup> "An Account of the Missionary Voyages by the Appointment of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The one to New Jersey in North America, and then from America to the coast of Guiney. By Rev. Thomas Thompson, A.M., Vicar of Reculver, in Kent. London: printed for Benjamin Dod at the Bible and Key, in Ave Mary Lane, near St. Paul's, MDCCCLVIII."





baptized as soon after they were born as conveniently could be done, and one whole family, the man (whose name was Joseph West<sup>1</sup>), his wife and nine children were baptized all at one time.

"The churches which I served were well filled every Sunday and divers families that lived out of the county came to Divine service from several miles distance and were very constant devout attendants. Besides these, some of the Dutch Church often made a considerable addition to the number of my hearers. I had three churches immediately in my charge, each of them situated in a different township, which had regular duty in such proportion as were agreed upon and subscribed to at a general vestry meeting soon after my coming there. The names of the townships are Freehold, Shrewsbury and Middletown. I also officiated at Allentown, in Upper Freehold, while that church was destitute of a minister, which was afterwards supplied by Mr. Michael Houdin, a convert from the Church of Rome and a worthy clergyman, now the Society's missionary. These four townships comprise the whole county, although 40 or 50 miles in length, and in some parts of it considerably wide. I also did occasional duty at other places, as will be further mentioned.

"The Church of England worship had, at Shrewsbury, been provided for by the building of a church, before there was any other in the county; but this church was now too small for the numerous congregation. People of all sorts resorted thither and of the Quakers, which are a great body in that township, there were several who made no scruple of being present at divine service and were not too precise to uncover their heads in the house of God.

"I went sometimes to a place called Manasquan, almost twenty miles distant from my habitation, where, and at Shark River, which is in that neighborhood, some church families were settled, who were glad of all opportunities for the exercise of Religion. I baptized at Manasquan two Negro brethren, both servants to Mr. Samuel Osborne, an eminent and very worthy member of the church, in whose family they had been taught good Christian principles. The honest men were so gratified that each of them offered me a *Spanish* dollar in acknowledgment, and would have thought themselves more obliged if I had not refused their presents."

In closing the account of his work in this county he makes the following remarks :

"I had now seen a great change in the state of my

<sup>1</sup>The volume from which these notes are taken is owned by James Steen, of Eatontown, and on the margin of the page on which this incident is mentioned is the following in pencil: "Joseph West was my great-grandfather, and I remember seeing him.

"Edmond West, March 9th, 1881, 90 years old."

Mr. West is still living near Oceanport.

mission within the space of three years, through the grace of God rendering my labors effectual to a good end; in particular as to the peace and unison which the church members, after having been much at variances among themselves, were now returned to, and the ceasing animosities betwixt them and those of other societies; for these I account the most valuable success that attended my ministry.

"After this the churches continued to flourish, and in the latter end of the year 1750, having then been above five years in America upon this mission, I wrote to the venerable and honorable society a letter requesting of them to grant me a mission to the coast of Guiney, that I might go to make a trial with the natives and see what hopes there would be of introducing among them the Christian religion. The summer following I received an answer to that letter from the Rev. Dr. Bearcroft, acquainting me that the Society had concluded to support me in the design of that voyage and would appoint another missionary in my stead for Monmouth County. And the next September Mr. Samuel Cook, of Caius college, arrived with his proper credentials and I delivered up my charge to him.

"Having took my leave of the congregation, I set out on the 13th of November, 1751, for New York, from thence to go upon my voyage to Africa, and at Elizabethtown waited on Governor Jonathan Belcher, Esq., who succeeded Colonel Morris, to pay my respects to him before I left the province."

The Rev. Thomas Thompson was succeeded, as is shown above, by the Rev. Samuel Cooke. He was educated at Caius College, Cambridge, England, and came to America as a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in September, 1751, locating in Shrewsbury, as successor of Rev. Thomas Thompson, in the care of the churches in Freehold, Middletown and Shrewsbury. The Revolution divided and dispersed his flock. As a minister of the Church of England, he thought it his duty to continue his allegiance to the crown, and so joined the British in New York, where for a time during the war he was chaplain in the brigade of guards.

Among other persons in Shrewsbury township whose property was confiscated and advertised to be sold by the Americans at Tinton Falls, March 29, 1779, is found the name of Samuel Cooke. In 1785 he settled at Fredericctown, New Brunswick, as rector of a church there. In 1791 he was commissary to the British of Nova Scotia. He was drowned in cross-



ing the river St. John in a birchen canoe, in 1795. His son, who attempted to save his life, perished with him.

It was during his time, in 1766, on the 1st day of October, that an important convention was held in the church, for the purpose of discussing the necessity of establishing an American Episcopate. Of those who were present were the Revs. Chandler, Jarvis, Seabury and Inglis. The large Bible still used in the church was presented during Mr. Cooke's rectorship (the next year after he assumed the duties) by Robert Elliston, controller of customs in New York. The old Prayer-Book was presented by Governor William Franklin, in June, 1767.

It was during the rectorship of Mr. Cooke, also, that the present church was built at Shrewsbury. At a meeting of the vestry on the 10th of July, 1769, there was a difference of opinion as to "where the northeast corner of the building should be located." It was finally decided to place it two feet south of the front of the old building. When the present church was erected, an iron crown, a copper vane and a gilt ball were placed on the spire. During the Revolution some American soldiers used the church as a barracks, and being angry at seeing the English crown over their heads, they shot at it, nicking it in many places, but did not bring it down. They finally built a fire in the church and would have destroyed it, but for William Parker, a Quaker, who rushed in and smothered the flames with his coat. The iron crown is still there, bearing evidence of severe usage from the patriots.

It has been stated that the first Episcopal Church in Shrewsbury was built in 1703 or 1704, but it is evident the church was not yet built in 1711, as in that year Governor Jeremiah Basse, in writing to the bishop of London, used the following language: "I had no doubt you had expected to have heard of a church at the Falls of Shrewsbury, built and owned by one of your members, Colonel Lewis Morris, but I regret to tell you there is no such thing, not so much as a stick or a stone on the ground."

The deed for the lot on which the first church was built, and on which the present church now stands, was deeded May 20, 1706, by Nicholas

Brown, to "y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> & Honorable Society for y<sup>e</sup> propagation of y<sup>e</sup> Gospel in Foreign Parts," in trust "forever to y<sup>e</sup> use, intent and purpose hereafter expressed & declared, & to no other use, intent or purpose what-soever. That is to say, for y<sup>e</sup> service & worship of God according to y<sup>e</sup> way & manner of y<sup>e</sup> church of England, as it is now by law established." The church lot so conveyed was "all that part or parcel of land lying and being in y<sup>e</sup> town of Shrewsbury, in y<sup>e</sup> county and province aforesaid." The starting point in the description of the tract is thus described,—“Beginning at Nicholas Brown's northwest corner at a walnut stump, bearing southwesterly twelve degrees westerly from y<sup>e</sup> Quaker's Meeting-House Chimbley, and from John West's great house chimbley north fifty-eight degrees easterly.” The deed was executed in presence of Thomas Bills, John West, Samuel Dennis and Joanna Gaunt, but it was not acknowledged until July 9, 1714, when Nicholas Brown and Samuel Dennis, one of the subscribing witnesses, appeared before Thomas Gordon, one of Her Majesty's Council, and acknowledged the instrument.

The first church was undoubtedly built the next year (1715) after the recording of the deed, which was probably one of the steps taken before its erection. As to the exact location of the building on the lot, it is inferred, from the difference as to locating the corner at the vestry meeting held July 10, 1769, that it fronted on the road, the same as the present church.

The centennial anniversary of the laying of the corner-stone was held June 21, 1869, with imposing ceremonies. Bishop Odenheimer officiated, aided by the Rev. William Otis, rector of the church, and fifteen other ministers. The President of the United States was present on the occasion.

In the history of Christ Church, written by the rector, the Rev. William Otis, the church building is described as follows:

"The church is a building capable of accommodating about four hundred people. Its exterior is exceedingly plain. It is shingled all over, and has a modest little steeple, surmounted by an old iron crown, put up there before the Revolution. The interior is that of an English country church of the old time, but is most neatly furnished throughout. The chancel,



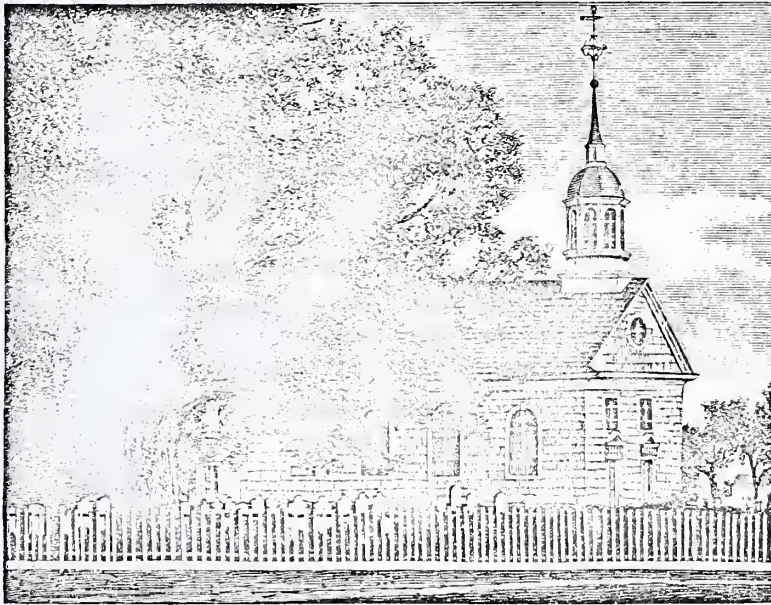


which occupies the southern end, is raised about four feet from the floor, the pulpit being just in front of it. The windows are of stained glass, that in rear of the chancel being one of the most beautiful in the country.

"It was the gift of Mr. George De Hart Gillespie, of New York, in memory of his ancestors, many of whom are buried here. The chairs in the chancel were made from the wood of the old oak which stands in the yard. This relic of ages past and gone is an immense tree. It measures sixteen feet two inches in circumference three feet from the ground, and one hundred years ago its branches and heavy foliage made a shelter for the people who collected on this spot to witness the laying of the corner-stone of the church. The largest of the chancel chairs is beautifully carved, and is known as the 'Bishop's Chair,' and never used on

bridge, England, in 1760, and presented to the Shrewsbury Church by Governor William Franklin in 1767, during the rectorship of Rev. Samuel Cooke; the other is a large Bible printed by John Basket, at Oxford, England, in 1717. This was the gift of 'Robert Elliston, Gent., Controller of His Majesty's Customs of New York in America,' and bears the Elliston coat of arms with the motto, '*Dei bene Deus.*' It is filled with illustrations designed by J. Thornhill, and engraved on copper by Du Bose. Another valuable relic here is a silver cup and platter given to the church by Queen Anne, in 1708."

Since this was written (in 1882) the church was frescoed and the furniture renewed. A new altar font and eagle lectern have been



CHRIST CHURCH,  
Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, N. J., built 1769.

public occasions by any one but the bishop of the diocese. In the southeast corner of the chancel stands a monument to the Rev. Harry Finch, who was for thirty-four years the rector of the church. It is a splendid piece of work, and consists of a white marble cross entwined with ivy. This stands upon a black marble base, and this upon a white marble pedestal. It bears the name of the deceased rector, and the mottoes '*Semper Paratus*' and '*Semper Fidelis*' carved on the sides. There are two canopied pews, one on each side of the church and near the chancel, which, years ago, were occupied by the Governor of the province and the rector. The 'Governor's pew' now contains the organ, and the old organ-loft serves as a gallery. In the pulpit are two valuable books—one a 'Book of Common Prayer,' printed at Cam-

added as the donation of Mr. George De Hart Gillespie.

In 1788, the Rev. Henry Waddell was inducted into the rectorship, by the church warden, as the first rector after the Revolution. He was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Fowler, in 1799, who continued in the rectorship until 1805. In 1809 the vestry called the Rev. John Croes, Jr., who remained faithfully and successfully performing his duty until 1824, when he was followed by the Rev. Eli Wheeler, who had a successful ministry of about six years, during which time a bell was added to the church. It had been



sent from France to a Santo Domingo Roman Catholic Church. There it remained until the revolution that deposed Soulouque, when it was sent to New York by its captors. Bought by Mr. Van Zandt, of Little Neck, L. I., it called the faithful to prayers, but a hill between the church and Mr. Van Zandt's house prevented him hearing it plainly, so he sold it to Rector Wheeler, of the old church at Shrewsbury. It has a bas relief of the *fleur de lis*, the coat-of-arms of France and the date 1788.

In 1830 the Rev. Harry Finch became rector, and labored faithfully until his death, February 14, 1864, serving this and the adjoining parishes nearly thirty-four years. A monument erected to his memory by his parishioners stands in the churchyard. During his ministry three separate parishes were formed out of the mother-church: at Navesink, in the Highlands, Red Bank and Long Branch. Since that time another parish has colonized from it at Eatontown.

In 1864, the Rev. William B. Otis was called by the vestry, and continued in the rectorship until 1875, when he was succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. B. Williams.

The graveyard of Christ Church contains many old headstones bearing names now familiar all over the land. Ancestors of the Lloyds, the Lippincotts, the Holmes, the Morfords and scores of other well-known families lie here, and some of these lived to a good old age. Hannah Morford died at ninety-three; Elizabeth at eighty; Jarrett, eighty-one; Thomas, eighty-one; Rebecca, seventy-seven; Maria, seventy-one; Elizabeth De Hart lived to enjoy eighty-four years; another Elizabeth, eighty-four; Mary, eighty-seven; Margaret, ninety-nine; Mauritz, seventy-seven; Balthazar, seventy-eight; another Manritz, eighty-eight,—all ancestors of Mr. Gillespie named above. Mrs. E. M. Clark, his mother, died at the age of seventy-two, and Elizabeth Crossly, the old family servant, lived one year longer. Not far from these graves is that of Charles Carville, a grandson of De Witt Clinton, and here, too, lie the Stelles, one of whom was buried in 1723, another in 1730. Their graves are at either side of the front entrance to the church. Here, too, is the

monument of the Rev. John Croes, A.M., son of Bishop Croes. He died in 1849, at the age of sixty-seven, after having served faithfully as rector of Christ Church thirteen years. A number of the Allens lie here, too, and the Throckmortons and the Voorhees family. Several graves are marked with names now extinct in this locality. Many of the Halstedes, members of the church for one hundred years, sleep here, and all of the Jones family. Aaron Jones, the father, died in 1840. His grave occupies one end of his family plat, and at the other is the grave of his daughter Eleanor, who died at the age of nineteen,—the only child out of eleven who lived more than ten days. Between these two graves are ten little ones, all of the same length, and each marked with a little white stone bearing the letter J. It is shown by the church register that these ten little ones each lived ten days, all dying at exactly the same age.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SHREWSBURY had its origin in the earliest days of the settlement, but did not have a house of worship at Shrewsbury until about 1727. The first settlers of Shrewsbury were mostly Congregationalists from New England, who settled on Rumson and Town Neck. There are evidences of a Congregational Church having existed at Rumson. The site was undoubtedly on the old graveyard near Rumson nurseries, in which is the Parmely vault. The ground is filled with unmarked graves. The oldest slab standing, bears date February 4, 1723. The grounds have been used in later times and many tombstones have been erected within the last thirty years. It is mentioned as being a Friends' burial-ground, but there is nothing to indicate that the society had established a burial-place there. They had a meeting-house at Shrewsbury as early as 1672, and their burial-place was near the church. Several of the early settlers in this section were not of the society, but succeeding generations, by intermarriage with Friends, have now become so thoroughly identified with them as to induce the belief that their ancestors were all Friends. This is the case with the descendants of John Hance, one





of the original Monmouth patentees. He was a justice of the township and was appointed "Schepen," or magistrate, under the Dutch rule in 1673. George Scott, in his "Model of the Government of East Jersey," says that the people were in the habit of holding service in the villages of the colony and conducting their own services; that "they were a pious sort of people, most like the Presbyterians." As early as 1684 they had lost control of the town-meetings and were without any settled pastor. The tide of Scotch Presbyterians set in about this time and occupied their places, though they differed from the Congregationalists but slightly. The Presbyterians in this part of the county were ministered to by John Boyd, who was licensed by the court in 1705 and by the Presbytery in 1706. He said he found the congregations scattered and weak, but apparently united in the endeavor to maintain services.

The Rev. Joseph Morgan succeeded the Rev. John Boyd in the "Scots' Meeting" (now Tennent Church), and served until about 1730.

On the 1st of June, 1727, Nicholas Brown (who, in 1706, sold the present Christ Church lot to the Episcopalians) conveyed the present lot on which the Presbyterian Church is located to Alexander Napier, John Johnston, Jr., and others, to be used for a burying-ground and Presbyterian meeting-house. At this time dissenting churches could not hold titles, and property for their use was conveyed to individuals.

On February 21, 1849, Governor Jonathan Belcher granted (in the King's name) a charter for the Presbyterians of Monmouth County. The following-named persons are named therein as corporators: John Little, Jr., Christopher Longstreet, Jonathan Forman, Esq., James Robinson, John Henderson, Stephen Pangborne, Esq., Robert Imlay and Tobias Polhemus.

The Presbyterian Church building was erected at Shrewsbury soon after the purchase of the land, and stood until after the death of the Rev. Charles McKnight, when it was in such a ruinous condition that it was unfit for use, and it was accordingly sold. The church from this time was in a weak condition until about 1840, when, under the Rev. Rufus Taylor, it took on a new growth.

In the year 1805 application was made to the Legislature of the State for permission to open a lottery for the purpose of raising money with which to build a house of worship. For some reason this did not succeed, and nothing further was done until 1821, when the present edifice was begun, and was completed in 1823. It was enlarged in 1845, and is still in use.

From the retirement of the Rev. Joseph Morgan from the Scots' Meeting, about 1728, the churches in this section were supplied from that church, the Rev. John Tennent succeeding to his charge. In 1734 the Rev. Samnel Blair began his labors in this place, having as preaching-places Middletown Point, Shark River and Middletown. He remained as pastor until September 5, 1739. The church seems to have been without a regular pastor from that time to May, 1761, when the Rev. Elihu Spencer was settled and remained in charge until May, 1764. The church was then without a pastor for three years. On the 21st of May, 1767, the Rev. Charles McKnight, formerly pastor of the church in Allentown, began his labors as pastor. At this time there were four Presbyterian congregations under his charge, each of which had a church edifice, viz.: Shrewsbury, Middletown, Middletown Point and Shark River (now Hamilton or Coburg). He remained in the service of these churches until his death, January 1, 1778. He resided at Middletown village. A more full account of him will be found in the history of the extinct Presbyterian Church of that place.

From that time, for a period of fifty years, the church was without a pastor, and had stated supplies but two years during that time. The sacrament was administered occasionally by Rev. Dr. John Woodhull and others. After a church edifice was built, in 1821-23, the Rev. Horace Pratt was sent here by a Female Missionary Society of Princeton, and remained four years. The church was attended for several years by ministers who acted as stated supplies. Efforts were made to settle a pastor, but without success until November 11, 1840, when the Rev. Rufus Taylor was induced to become the pastor. Under his ministry the church sprang into new life and activity. He remained until 1852, when



he resigned. In October of the same year the Rev. Thaddeus Wilson, the present pastor, began his ministry at this church. The church at present has a membership of one hundred and thirty, embracing Eatontown, at which place a church edifice has been erected.

The Shrewsbury Library Association was organized in 1861 and was incorporated in June, 1873. A library was procured and kept in private houses until 1880, when the association purchased of Joseph Stillwell the old Orthodox Friends' Church, and moved it across the street upon a lot donated to the association for that purpose and no other. The building was fitted up for the purpose, and is called Library Hall. The library contains about two thousand eight hundred volumes, and is under the care of a board of trustees, viz.: J. Preston Lafetra, (president) James Steen, L. W. Sleeper, George D. Tallman, Jr., John Trafford.

TINTON FALLS was known prior to 1673 as the "Falls of Shrewsbury." The land in its vicinity was first located by James Grover, one of the original Monmouth patentees. He had settled at Gravesend, Long Island, in 1646. On account of his opposition to the Dutch government and proclaiming in favor of Cromwell in 1655, he left Long Island, disposing of his plantation to Thomas Delavall in 1666. The following year he appears at Middletown, in this State, as one of the original patentees of the Monmouth patent, and is chosen the first town clerk and surveyor of the township. The position afforded him excellent opportunity for inspecting all the territory included in the patent, and enabled him to locate such lands for himself as he might select. Within a few years after taking up his portion of the land grant it was decided that the wet, boggy meadows contained valuable deposits of iron-ore, and he, with others, took means to secure a large tract of land at that place with a view to its development. He sent to New England for James and Henry Leonard, who were millwrights, and well skilled in the erection of iron-mills, furnaces and forges, and who had assisted in the construction of most of the iron-works in the Plymouth colony.

At this place began the first mining of iron ore in New Jersey. Soon after the building of the furnace by James Grover and others, they, under date of October 25, 1675, conveyed to Lewis Morris, of the island of Barbadoes, a triangular piece of land containing three thousand five hundred and forty acres, being part of the original patent obtained in 1667. This grant gave the purchaser and his associates "full liberty to dig, delve and carry away all such mines for iron as they shall find or see fit to dig and carry away to the iron-works, that shall be found in that tract of land that lies enclosed between the southeast branch of the Raritan river and the Whale pond on the sea side, and is bounded from thence by the sea and branch of the sea to the eastward to the Raritan river, he or they paying all such just damages to the owners of land where they shall dig, as shall be judged is done by trespass of cattle, or otherwise sustained by the carting and carrying of the said mine to the works."

From the earliest town records and other public documents it is ascertained that the smelting furnace and extensive iron-works in operation on this "ore tract" employed during 1680 seventy negroes and many white servants. The ore used was found in wet meadows and swamps, known as "bog ore," being a hydrous peroxide of iron, containing forty per cent. of metallic iron. These and other similar ores dug from undrained marshes of the eastern coast of the State furnished much of the material for the early iron-works of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania during the colonial times.

The iron made here was said by the resident proprietors to be of very good quality, and the trade was of great benefit to the province of East Jersey. The usual price obtained for a ton of the iron-ore was six dollars and a half, and a ton of bar-iron at that time brought in London eighteen pounds sterling. Of so much importance were these works thought to be for the development of the territory that, in response to a petition of the owner to the provincial authorities for public protection and encouragement, special legislation was adopted in his favor. By a vote of the General Assembly, April 6, 1676, it was enacted "as





touching Colonel Morris' request, the Deputies are willing the lands and works belonging properly to the Iron-Works shall or may be rate-free for seven years, excepting in extraordinary cases, as war or the like."

It appears, from letters of early settlers in the towns of Shrewsbury and Middletown to their friends and relatives in England and Scotland, that during the whole length of time these iron-works were exempt from taxation (1676-1683) Colonel Morris was successfully pursuing this industry, encouraging skilled workmen and affording employment to a large number of laborers.

Colonel Lewis Morris was originally from Monmouthshire, England, and there inherited the paternal estate of Tintern. He raised a troop of horse for Parliament, for which Charles the First confiscated his estate. In return for his losses Cromwell subsequently indemnified him. He early embraced Cromwell's cause, and having signalized himself on several occasions so as to win Cromwell's regard, he was selected, in 1654, to proceed to the West Indies with an expedition intended to secure the mastery of these seas. While there he received a colonel's commission, and was second in command upon the attack on Jamaica. Having a nephew settled at Barbadoes, he was induced to purchase an estate on that island, and not deeming it advisable to return to England after the restoration, he subsequently became part owner of the Island of St. Lucia, and took up his abode permanently in the West Indies, remaining there until the death of his brother Richard in New York, when he came to that city in 1673. On his arrival he assumed the guardianship of his infant nephew, Lewis Morris, who was previously under the care of the Dutch government.

To the plantation which Colonel Morris bought of James Grover and others he gave the name of Tintern Manor (later corrupted to Tinton), after the family estate in Monmouthshire, Wales. He was appointed a justice of the court, and held the position several years. He was active in the organization of the county, and gave to it the name "Monmouth," from his native county in Wales. He was a member of

the Council until August 16, 1683. In February of the following year the minutes state that Colonel Lewis Morris "being mostly absent and living in New York," and Captain Palmer and Laurens Andriessen not able to attend, others were selected in their places. Upon his settlement in New York he was appointed a member of Governor Dongan's Council, and was such until 1686. He died in May, 1691, at "his plantation over against Harlem" (meaning Morrisania, N. Y.).

The iron-works were described in 1680 by Secretary Nichols, when speaking of Colonel Morris' plantation, as "his iron-mills, his manours and divers other buildings for his servants and dependants, together with sixty or seventy Negros about the mill and husbandry." The description of East Jersey by the proprietors in 1682 says: "What sort of mines or minerals are in the bowels of the earth after-time must produce, the inhabitants not having yet employed themselves in search thereof; but there is already a smelting furnace and forge set up in the colony where is made good iron, which is of great benefit to the country," this having reference to Colonel Morris' iron-works at Tinton. Oldmixon, writing in 1708, says: "Between this town [Shrewsbury] and Middletown is an Iron-Works, but we do not understand it has been any great benefit to the Proprietors."

It is evident that the works were not of much profit at this time. In 1714, Lewis Morris (afterward the Governor), to whom the property came from his uncle, asked "the Lords of Trade to encourage the Iron Interests in this Province." This is the latest mention found of the Morris iron-works, and it is probable that they were allowed to go down soon afterwards.

The property of Colonel Lewis Morris, who settled at Tinton Manor (now Tinton Falls) in 1673, was left by will to his nephew, Lewis Morris, the son of Richard. He had given or sold to "Lewis Morris, of Passage Point" (another nephew, and the son of Thomas Morris), a tract of land on Navarumsnuk Neck, which was then known as Passage Point (now Black Point). This last-named Lewis Morris was appointed high sheriff of Monmouth County



March 14, 1682-83, but did not serve. He was appointed commissioner of highways soon afterwards. He was a justice of the courts from 1691 to his death, in 1696. He is mentioned both as "Lewis Morris, of Passage Point," and as "Lewis Morris, Jr."

Lewis Morris, to whom Tinton Manor was left by Colonel Lewis Morris, was born at Morrisania, N. Y., in 1671. Bereft of his father and mother when very young, he was taken in charge of the Dutch government. Soon after the arrival of Colonel Lewis Morris from the Island of Barbadoes, in 1673, he assumed charge of the estate of his brother, Richard Morris, and of his nephew, the infant Lewis Morris. As he grew up, his strong passions and erratic disposition brought him into trouble with his uncle, and he ran away to Virginia and from thence went to the Island of Jamaica, but after a year or two returned and became reconciled with his uncle. His name first occurs in the records under date of June 25, 1689, when, at a Court of Sessions held at Middletown, information was presented by Benjamin Hick against John Jennings, John West, Edward Williams, Lewis Morris, Caleb Allen, Clement Masters, John Lippincott, Jr., William Hulett, Peter Parker and Thomas Wainwright "for running of races and playing at nylene-pins on the Sabbath Day."

On the 3d of November, 1691, he was married to Isabella, daughter of James Graham, Attorney-General of the province, and settled at Tinton Manor. In 1692, at the age of twenty-one years, he was appointed judge of the Court of Common Right of East Jersey and became at the same time a member of Governor Andrew Hamilton's Council. He soon developed those qualities which in after-life gave him great influence in public affairs. On the arrival of Jeremiah Basse, in 1698, claiming the Governorship of the province by the appointment of only ten proprietors, instead of the requisite number of sixteen, Mr. Morris ranged himself with those who would not acknowledge his authority, and refused obedience to the legal tribunals and to those officials who upheld his claims as the chief functionary of the province. Basse's proclamation of his com-

mission was made on the 8th of April, 1698, and a month thereafter Mr. Morris was fined fifty pounds for contemning the authority of the Court of Common Right, in session at Amboy. On the return of Andrew Hamilton as Governor, in 1700, Mr. Morris was appointed president of the Council. Soon afterwards he addressed a letter to the bishop of London concerning the state of religion in the two provinces, and censuring the people of Middletown in particular for their immorality and evil practices.

This account of Lewis Morris (says Hon. George C. Beekman), should be received with considerable allowance, not alone because of his animosity to the people of this region, who had so frequently presented him<sup>1</sup> and ignored his authority, but at the same time he wrote this letter he was anxious to secure the appointment of Governor from the British crown. He sought the influence of the Church of England, which would likely have some power. Andrew Bowne, whom he styles an Anabaptist, resided in Middletown township, as did also Richard Harts-horne, whom he styles a Quaker. Both of these men were prominently mentioned for the appointment of Governor. In this letter he adroitly poisons the minds of the great dignitaries of the Church of England against them, and parades his own zealous efforts in behalf of the church. He also gratifies his hatred of the people by abusing them. Lewis Morris was an ambitious and crafty man, and would have put the yoke of priestly tithes on the people of Monmouth without any scruples if it would have advanced his own interests. But the people of the county had as poor an opinion of him as he had of them, and when they broke up his court and arrested him they treated him like a common malefactor, holding both him and his court in the greatest contempt.

Mention of Lewis Morris is found in a communication by the Rev. Jacob Henderson, a missionary from London, dated June 12, 1712, and giving a representation of the state of the

<sup>1</sup> Several times (and while he was one of the justices on the bench) the grand jury of Monmouth had presented him for fencing up the road from Middletown to Freehold, and for other misdemeanors.





Church of England in New York and New Jersey, viz.:

"In New Jersey . . . the plurality of the Queen's Council are good churchmen, and have always opposed any attempts made to her prejudice by y<sup>e</sup> Quakers or other Dissenters, who have at their head one Coll. Lewis Morris, a professed churchman, but a man of noe manner of principles or credit; a man who calls the service of the church of England, Pagantry; who has joynd in endeavours to settle a conventicle in the city of New York, and whose practiee it is to intercept letters, and let such as please him pass, and those y<sup>e</sup> doe not he destroys, as can be fully proved. This Coll. Lewis Morris, with the present Governour, Coll. Hunter, have written to the Lords Commissioners of Trade, to turn out of the Council six church of England men, and put in six others in their room, some of them Dissenters, and those that are of are such as will run into all the measures of the Assembly, and therefore of the worst consequences to the church in that Province."<sup>1</sup>

In 1703, Morris was appointed a member of the Council of Lord Cornbury. He soon became prominent in opposition to the Governor, and in 1704 was suspended from the Council. He at once assumed the leadership of an opposition, being ably seconded by Thomas Gordon and Samuel Jennings. A remonstrance was made to the Queen setting forth the grievances under which they labored, and also a remonstrance to the Governor. This called forth from the Governor, in reply, a bitter denunciation of the men to whose agency he rightfully attributed the adopting of those views which so decidedly militated against the supremacy of his individual will. The member from Perth Amboy was referred to in disparaging terms as "one Thomas Gordon" and Morris and Jennings were stigmatized as men "known to have neither good principles nor good morals," notorious as "disturbers of the quiet and peace of the Province, possessed with passionate heats and the transports of most vindictive tempers." Lieutenant-Governor Ingham and eight of the members of the Council presented a counter-memorial to Lord Lovelace, in which they said: "As to Mr. Morris, the whole County where he lived, namely the County of Monmouth, are witness to his troublesome temper, whereby he is a

perfect torment to his neighbours; those who know him best have most reason of complaint, And since he came to write man, hath been Eminently concerned, if not Principall in all the Rebellious and disorders that have been in this Province, as may appear by his own hand writing . . . there is hardly a county in the Eastern Division wherein he did not succeed to stirr them to dangerous and notorious Riotts and Rebellions, but only the county of Bergen, where he did not faile for doing mischief for want of good will, But that the Dutch People therein were wiser, and treated him with that Contempt his Evill Designs Required. . . . It was a werke they had no liking to, and so they closed their Resolutions among themselves, that they would not have to do with the Spiker-maker; that was the very term of Contempt (being Dutchmen) they used towards Morris, grounded upon the Iron-Works his Unkle left him." Elsewhere Morris and Samuel Jennings are characterized as "men known to be uneasy under all government, never consistent with themselves, and to whom all the factions and confusions in the governments of New Jersey and Pennsylvania for many years are wholly owing."

Mr. Morris was appointed chief justice of New Jersey in 1712, and of New York in 1720. In 1733 he was removed from the position of chief justice by Governor William Cosby, who, in giving his reasons for the removal, said,—

"But at another time, Mr. Morris having opened the Court, he adjourned it, according to his custome, to the next morning, but sitting up all that night and drinking hard, he lay abed all the next day till near sunsett, when the people growing more uneasy at his delays, some of his friends, or his servants, awakened him, he got up, and Company being admitted into his Chamber, he asked what hour it was, they answered almost night; how can that be, said the Chief Justice, the sun has but just risen; and saying so he took up his Fiddle and played the Company a tune. These particulers, I assure you, I had from some of the Lawyers who were there at the times, and from several other persons of good Credit; the County was very uneasy, but not knowing how to get redress, were obliged to bear it."

Towards the close of 1734, the proceedings of Governor Cosby so exasperated his opponents that they determined to lay their grievances be-

<sup>1</sup> Col. Doc., i. 4, 156.



fore the King, and they made Mr. Morris their messenger. He soon after visited England upon that mission, and remained until the death of Cosby in March, when he returned home and reached Morrisania October 7, 1736. The province was disturbed in its gubernational relations from that time to February 1738, when Lewis Morris was appointed Governor of New Jersey, he being the first Governor of the province separate from New York.

From about 1710, Lewis Morris was a resident of Morrisania, N. Y., though during his Governorship of New Jersey he resided at Kingsbury, near Trenton, where he died May 21, 1746. He was buried in the family vault at Morrisania. His property in Monmouth County was left to his son, Robert Hunter Morris, from whom it passed a few years later. In 1765 the mill property was owned by Daniel Hendrickson; later by Reuben Shive, and by William Remsen, who, in 1838, sold the mills to Pierson Hendrickson, who still owns them. After the property had passed from the Morris family there was a small foundry in operation upon it, at the Falls, for many years.

The first tavern at Tinton Falls was on the site of Nimrod Baulsir's residence. It was kept by Nicholas Van Brunt, who was sheriff of the county during the Revolution. In 1808 it was kept by Jacob Van Arsdale, and later by Forman Throekmorton, Gilbert Clayton, John Mount, Holmes Messler, and last by Nimrod Baulsir, from 1872 to 1883. The present hotel was changed to that use from a store about 1870, and kept by Edward Wilson, and at present by William Hendrickson.

The Tinton Falls post-office was established about 1840 with Pierson Hendrickson as postmaster. He was succeeded by Daniel Holmes, William Smith, Nicholas Wilson, Samuel Benet, David Haner and Benjamin Scott.

Tinton Falls was the home of Dr. Jacobus Hubbard, who is mentioned in a road record as residing there in 1713. His son, Jacobus Hubbard, also became a physician and also lived at Tinton Falls. Dr. William H. Hubbard, now of Red Bank, was a nephew of Dr. Jacobus Hubbard and settled at Tinton Falls in his early practice.

The mineral spring at the Falls is said to have been reserved by the Indians in their sale to the white settlers. It is strongly impregnated with iron, and is equal in flow and temperature in all seasons and weather. In 1838, Robert Morris opened a boarding-house within three hundred yards of the Spa Spring. In 1867 a company was organized to develop the property, and was later incorporated; nothing was done, and the company expired by limitation. The spring is now owned by men in New York.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Tinton Falls stood originally about half a mile south from the Falls, on land now owned by John Dean. A lot was given for the purpose in 1815 by James Withers. Trustees were appointed, but it does not appear that it was built until several years later. It was then used at that place until 1868, when it was moved to Tinton Falls, and used until 1872, when it was rebuilt, and was rededicated February 5, 1873. The pastors from that time have been James Moore, J. Lavelle, A. M. North, N. J. Wright, A. J. Gregory, W. H. Allen, and S. T. Grimes.

THE MACEDONIAN ZION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1854, and erected a building on Pine Brook, south of Tinton Falls, and on the line between Shrewsbury and Atlantic townships. The society was incorporated April 16, 1855. The church was placed under charge of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Eatontown and is still in that connection. The house was used until 1884, when a new house was built, and dedicated December 14th in that year. The pastor in charge is the Rev. E. Hammett.

CENTREVILLE is a settlement on the line of Shrewsbury and Ocean townships, south of Eatontown village. A hotel was built at the place in 1846 by John Brown, and kept by him for many years. In 1865, James H. Dangler became the landlord and kept it till 1884, when it was discontinued as a hotel. Mr. Dangler, in 1873, built a store, which he occupied and still keeps. A carriage-shop was built by E. L. Havens in 1874.

RUMSON NECK comprises all that part of Shrewsbury township lying between the Nave-





sink and Shrewsbury (or otherwise Shrewsbury and South Shrewsbury) Rivers, and is the "Navarumunk Necke" sold by the Indians to the white settlers in 1664. Otherwise the name was spelled Narumsunk and Narumson, which last is found in an Indian deed of the year mentioned.

One of the first settlers on the neck was John Hance, who is mentioned as deputy and overseer at a court held at Portland Point December 28, 1669. He settled on Rumson Neck and owned a tract of land reaching from river to river. During the Dutch rule he was appointed "schepen," or magistrate, in 1673, having been a justice before that time. He lived and died on his estate, and is probably buried in the old cemetery which is at the Rumson nurseries. The oldest slab in this yard bears this inscription: "Here lyes ye body of Joyce Hance, wife of John Hance, who died February ye 4th, 1722-3, aged 39 years." She was probably the wife of the son of the original settler. From this John Hance sprang all of the family, many of whom, by intermarriage with Friends, are now of that denomination.

Joseph Parker, an early settler upon Rumson Neck, came to this county with Peter Parker, John Slocum and Eliakim Wardell about 1667, and with them signed the oath of allegiance. He received a patent for a large tract of land on the upper end of the neck, reaching from river to river. He was appointed a judge of the court in 1676 and also a deputy to the Assembly. In the minutes of the Assembly of 1683 is a statement of matters of difference between the proprietors and Council on one hand, and Joseph Parker, John Bowne and Richard Hartshorne on the other, relating to the disputes between the first settlers of Monmouth, who claimed their titles under the patent granted by Governor Nicolls, 1665, and also by purchase from the Indians. He died in 1685 and left his property to his son Joseph, who was born in 1670, and who married Elizabeth, daughter of Remembrance Lippincott. They had two children, Joseph and Deborah. Joseph was the father of William Parker, better known as "Rich Billy," who was born in November, 1736, and married Mary White. He lived near Shrewsbury

village, and his vast landed estate made him very wealthy. Many stories are told of his eccentricities. He belonged to the Society of Friends, and yet dressed with considerable ostentation, for the buttons on his waistcoat and outer coat were made of silver dollars. He lived during the Revolution, and the following story is told of him:

"Richard Howell, who was a major in the Second Regiment, Continental army, until 1779, and afterwards Governor of New Jersey from 1792 to 1801, was on terms of intimacy with Parker, and one time, when he was in Parker's neighborhood, accepted the hospitalities of his house. One evening, while he was out, a party of Refugees stopped at Parker's house and demanded supper. While they were eating, Major Howell, not knowing they were there, entered the room. Parker, with presence of mind, promptly exclaimed: 'Good evening, Dick! why is thee so late? I cannot attend to that business to-night. I am engaged with some friends. Call in the morning and I will settle it.' Parker was so self-possessed that the Refugees never suspected that he was talking to an American officer. As to Howell, he took the hint and at once retreated to less dangerous quarters."

"Rich Billy" Parker had several sons, of whom Joseph, born in 1760, settled in Eatontown and was a merchant there many years. William settled on Rumson, where his descendants still live. His daughter Phoebe became the wife of Thomas White; Polly, another daughter, married first a Holmes and later a Crawford. Deborah Parker married Benjamin Corlies. Benjamin C. White and Abner Allen were her grandsons.

William Parker, called "Boatman Billy," to distinguish him from "Rich Billy," was a grandson of Peter Parker, who settled at what is now Long Branch, came to Rumson Neck and settled near what was afterwards named Parker-ville, from this family. William had a son William, who settled on the homestead, where his grandsons now live. Michael Parker, now (December, 1884) more than eighty years of age, is a son of William Parker, Jr.

On the north part of the eastern point of



Rumson Neck is a tract of land, now called Black Point. It is a part of the lands that came to the possession of Colonel Lewis Morris, of Tinton Falls, about 1674. On the 15th of April, 1689, he conveyed it to Lewis Morris, a son of his brother Thomas, who lived in London. The Lewis Morris here mentioned resided there and was a man of influence. He is mentioned in the old records as "Lewis Morris, of Passage Point," by which name the point went for many years.

At a court held at Middletown in September, 1694, "Lewis Morris, of Passage Point," was indicted for the offense that he, "with several of his negroes, did feloniously take away the hay of William Shattock." The indictment was "removed by writ of *habeas corpus* to the Court at Perth Amboy," and Lewis Morris, of Tinton Manor, became his bondsman. At the next court, held at Shrewsbury, December 25th, the same year, Lewis Morris, of Passage Point, was indicted for striking Nicholas Sarah, of Freehold. The court ordered him to appear at next court, to be held at Middletown, March 27, 1695. At that term Lewis Morris "did inform the court, how matters were and submitted himself to the bench and was by them dismissed." It was not long after this time that he was murdered by negroes (in 1696). At a subsequent term of court it was ordered "that the negroes that are in the gaol for the murdering of Lewis Morris, of Passage Point, shall be conveyed by the sheriff to Perth Amboy, to attend the Court of Common Right."

The tract of land (about seven hundred acres) owned by Lewis Morris, of Passage Point, where he lived, passed to his cousin, Lewis Morris, and in time came to Richard Salter, who, on July 27, 1753, conveyed it to John Salter and John Hartshorne. The latter was a son of William Hartshorne, of the Navesink Highlands. Many years later it was in possession of Dr. Eleazer Parmley, who, September 17, 1832, sold it to Seabury Treadwell. The place has now nothing of any importance upon it. The south part of the point is rising ground and is well built up with elegant residences surrounded with finely laid out grounds. It is facing on the Shrewsbury River and Pleasure Bay, and is

connected with Seabright and the railroad-station at that place by an iron bridge, which gives the residents (most of whom are business men) easy access to the city. Above, or west of the Salter and Hartshorne tract of seven hundred acres, was the large tract of Richard Salter; still farther west, and reaching across the neck from river to river, was the Borden tract; still farther west, and adjoining, was a part of Joseph Wardell's tract, which, about the close of the Revolution, came into the possession of William Bingham, a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia and United States Senator from Pennsylvania. He built an elegant country-seat on an elevated piece of ground commanding a view of the neck, Shrewsbury and Navesink Rivers and the ocean in the distance. His wife was a leader of fashion in Philadelphia, and during the summer season many of the fashionable people of that city were invited to the hospitalities of his seaside house. The property afterwards passed to Dr. Eleazer Parmley, whose son is still in possession of a part of the estate.

PARKERVILLE (now Little Silver) is situated a little south of the middle of Rumson Neck, and not far from Little Silver Creek. About 1820 the people in the vicinity began to be regularly visited by Methodist ministers who traveled in this vicinity. Meetings were held at the house of Michael Parker and of Mrs. Erasmus, who lived opposite, where the church now stands. In 1822, Michael Parker gave the lot on which the present store stands for a church; Mrs. Erasmus donated timber, and, by other contributions from those interested, a meeting-house was built, and called the Embury Methodist Episcopal Church. The district at that time was under the charge of the Rev. John Walker and William Lummis. In 1829-30, Rev. John Wollaston was on the circuit. In 1844, Rumson became a separate charge, and was placed under the care of the Rev. William W. Perry, who was the next year at the church of Red Bank. The pastors who have served since 1874 have been W. S. McCowen, 1874; W. Franklin, 1875-77; J. E. Lake, 1878-80; W. A. Massey, 1881-83; S. Townsend, 1884.

In 1866, the church being too small, the





school-house lot was bought, and in 1868 the present frame meeting-house, thirty-five by sixty feet in size, was erected.

In 1845, Jacob C. Parker opened a store a short distance east of the present store, which is the old church building. A post-office was established in 1875, with B. F. King, the present postmaster, in charge.

About 1871, Charles Habrough began the business of carriage-making at the place, and built the present shops. He was succeeded, in 1876, by R. B. Campbell, the present owner, who now keeps about eight men constantly employed.

In 1878, J. T. Lovett began setting out a tract of one hundred acres at Little Silver as a nursery, making a specialty of small fruits. He also has fifty acres, at Deal Beach, in stock. During the busy season he has employed a hundred men, and ships his stock to all parts of the United States.

The Rumson Nurseries were first opened in 1854, on the old Hance homestead farm, by Asher Hance, and were held by him and his sons until 1879, when the farm was sold to William W. Conover, who continued till 1882, when it came under the management of Hance & Borden, by whom it is continued, and who now have four tracts under cultivation,—one on the original site, on Rumson Neck road; one at Albert Borden's residence, at Little Silver; a peach nursery, about half a mile north of Little Silver Depot; and the Riverside nurseries.

THE VILLAGE OF OCEANIC lies on the north side of Rumson Neck and on the Navesink River, a mile or two above Black Point. In 1840, Martinus Bergen owned a large tract of land on the neck, and in that year sold one hundred acres to Thomas Hunt, of Long Island. At that time there was a farm-house on the place,—the same now occupied by August Ligier as a hotel. About a mile below this farm the Friends of Rumson Neck had, a year or two previous, built a pier for their own benefit, which was destroyed in 1845. Mr. Hunt then built a pier and a hotel, which last was named Port Washington Hotel. One or two houses were erected prior to this time, and a church, which was for the use of all denomi-

nations, was erected and dedicated May 1, 1842. Mr. Hunt established a line of steamers—the "Confidence," "Cricket" and "Thomas Hunt"—in 1845. These ran from Port Washington Dock for several years. The "Cricket" was seriously damaged on the bar, and the others were taken off.

A "private" post-office was established at Port Washington in 1845, with Samuel Harvey as postmaster. The mails were brought from Red Bank. The name was afterwards changed to Oceanie, when the office became regular, and Alvin Harvey was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by James Bruce, the present incumbent.

In 1845 Mr. Hunt erected a building near the end of the wharf for ——— Hammond, who opened a store; also, a shoe-shop for Samuel Harvey, who, in 1859, built a store, which he kept many years. The present store was opened about 1859 by John Jeffrey, who kept it five years. It is now kept by Enright Brothers, who also have a store at Seabright. The large hotel, formerly known as the Port Washington Hotel and now as the Oceanie, is kept by Victor Ligier.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Port Washington was organized by the Presbytery of Monmouth in April, 1861, and was constituted of members from Red Bank and Shrewsbury Churches. The church building that was erected in 1842 was placed in their charge, and they have since occupied it. The chapel, which was built in 1880, at Seabright, is placed in charge of this church. The pastors and their terms of service are here given,—Alfred B. King, October 22, 1861, to July 1, 1862; Alexander Clement, November 17, 1865, to March 14, 1868; James McFarlane, April 30, 1868, to April 23, 1871; Charles S. Newhall (supply), June 20, 1874; S. B. Dodd, to 1881; Samuel Miller, 1882 to 1883; W. S. Knipe, 1883 to 1884.

THE GOODWILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1875 and erected the Goodwill Chapel in that year. It is under the care of the church at Seabright.

ST. GEORGE EPISCOPAL CHURCH stands on the corner of Bellevue Avenue and the Ridge



road. It is a stone structure, built in 1874 by the summer residents on the neck. The first rector was the Rev. William Borden, who was succeeded by the Rev. William O. Embray. The church at Fair Haven and at Little Silver are both under the charge of this church.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, on Little Silver, was originally a mission of Trinity Church, of Red Bank. In 1878 the present edifice was erected. The church has about forty members.

FAIR HAVEN is located on the north side of Rumson Neck and on the Navesink River midway between Oceanic and Red Bank. In 1825 the land in the locality was owned by Morris De Hart, Jacob Corlies and Asher Hance. In 1816, Jeremiah Chandler, a boatman, bought an acre of land on the coast and erected a two-story house on the site of what is now Van Tine's Hotel. The first store was kept by John Covert about 1825. Christopher Doughty opened a grocery about 1833 (where Benjamin Doughty now lives), and later moved to where James Scott now keeps a boarding-house. About 1850, Peter Snyder opened a store where George Hendrickson now keeps. A wharf had been built about 1850, which was much enlarged in 1857, and the Fair Haven Dock Company was incorporated February 5, 1866, with the following corporators: Charles Doughty, Edward Bennett, Forman Smith, Benjamin B. Hance, Cornelius Hendrickson, Denyse Hendrickson, Abraham Trafford, George De H. Gillespie and others. This company had been running steamboats to their dock, and at this time additional boats were put on the route, some of which were running to Red Bank, touching at this point. They were the "Highland Light," "James Christopher," "Alice Price," "McLean," "Nelly White" and the "Sea Bird." This last-named boat was built in 1865, partially burned in 1869; rebuilt and is still on the line, making regular trips to New York.

A post-office was established about 1876, with Edmund Trafford postmaster, who at that time kept a store at the place. He has been succeeded by Henry C. Dennis, Edmund Trafford and the present incumbent, William V. Bennett.

The Chandler dwelling-house was enlarged by John Van Tine about twenty years ago and opened as a hotel, which he still keeps. The Atlantic Hotel has been built within the past few years.

THE METHODIST PROTESTANTS organized a congregation at this place in 1854 and erected a church edifice, which is still standing and in use. The foundation of a new church, thirty-five by sixty feet, is already laid, and the building is expected to be ready for occupancy during 1885. After the completion of the new church the old building will be used as a chapel and for a Sunday-school room. Among the pastors who have served the church are the Revs. — Van Leer, James Cassell, E. C. Stultz, — Heirs, — Bailey, Jacob Freed and Jacob Leupie, who is the present pastor.

THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH was built many years ago on the Port Washington road, east of Fair Haven. It was destroyed by fire on Sunday, February 9, 1873, and the congregation removed to Red Bank, where the society built a house of worship.

THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL BETHEL CHURCH was organized in this place about 1860, and built a chapel. In 1882 the congregation were assisted in building by General Clinton B. Fiske, who, at a cost of three thousand dollars, erected the Fiske Chapel, at the west side of the village. It was dedicated August 20, 1882. The Rev. J. T. Rex was then pastor. In the same year, and adjoining the Fiske Chapel, a school-house for colored children was built, and dedicated November 18, 1882.

An Episcopal Church was commenced just west of the village in 1884, the corner-stone being laid on Monday, November 3d, of that year. It is under the care of St. George Episcopal Church of Rumson Neck.

The township of Shrewsbury embraces seven school districts, which contain eighteen hundred and sixteen registered scholars, and have school property valued at forty-one thousand six hundred dollars.

In what is now Oceanic District, No. 72, the first school-house was built about 1849. It was





in the woods near the residence of Dr. E. Parmley, and was used until the present frame two-story house was built, in 1880. The district now contains two hundred and ten children of school age.

In Fair Haven District, No. 73, the present frame two-story school-house was built in 1878. The first house in this locality stood on the Rumson road, where it is now joined by Buena Vista Avenue, and near the old Presbyterian graveyard. It was used as the school-house for the people of the Neck, and was discontinued many years ago. J. H. Chandler, of Fair Haven, attended school there in 1821. John S. Borden, Nathaniel Clark, Samuel Crane and Joseph Wardell were teachers in this old house.

In 1841 a school-house was erected in Fair Haven, and Forman Smith was the first teacher. It was used until the present school-house was built. The district now contains two hundred and sixty-eight children of school age.

Parkerville District, No. 74, now embraces what was formerly two districts, which were united in 1882. About 1848, Mrs. Blanche, a teacher at the "Phalanx," moved to Little Silver, where Dr. John Hall now resides, and built on her own land a school-house, in which she taught school several years. In 1852 a school-house was erected on the corner opposite Captain Mulliner's residence, which was used until the districts were united, in 1882, when the house was sold.

The old school-house mentioned in Fair Haven District was the school-place of the children of this locality until after 1828, soon after which a school was kept in the house of Michael Parker; was taught by his son William and his daughter Jane. About 1840 the residents united in erecting a school-house on the site of the present church, which stood until 1865, when it was sold and the present frame two-story house was built. The district now contains one hundred and fifty-eight children of school age.

Red Bank District, No. 75, is mentioned more fully in the history of the town of Red Bank.

Shrewsbury District, No. 77, includes the old village of Shrewsbury, where the first schools in

the township were taught. The Friends, Presbyterians and Episcopalians all had churches in the village before 1720. As was the case in those days, the school was an adjunct of the church, and the different denominations each had their schools.<sup>1</sup>

It is known that in 1793-94 a school was taught in the old Presbyterian Church by a Mr. McGregory, and later by — Dunleavy. In 1810, Jacob Holmes, Robert White, Benjamin White and Dr. Samuel Tenbrook erected a school-house, by permission, upon the northeast corner of the Christ Church lot. Among the teachers from 1820 were Samuel Crain (from Vermont), Joseph Wardell, Seth Lippincott (in 1827, '28, '29 and several years later in his own house). The school-house was bought by the Rev. Harry Finch, who taught a school there for several years, and also used it for a Sunday-school. He had as assistant, George H. Sickles, now of Middletown. Upon the erection of a district, many years ago, the Rev. Harry Finch, Dr. John P. Lewis and Dr. Edward W. Allen were the first trustees. A house was rented for several years which now stands on the estate of Delafield Smith. A school-house was built about 1837-38 by several persons (mostly Presbyterians), and kept by Mr. George Woodward as a private school ten or twelve years. The building was then rented by the district for several years. About 1876, Mr. Edward Cor-

<sup>1</sup>The earliest positive knowledge on the subject is gained from the journal of the Rev. Thomas Thompson, who was a missionary to this county between the years 1745 and 1750. After a visit to Manasquan, he says, —

"As people were desirous of having a schoolmaster, and spoke of making up among themselves a competency for one, I proposed it to Mr. Christopher Robert Reynolds, the society's schoolmaster at Shrewsbury; and those parts being within that township, it was not inconsistent with his appointment. He was willing to go and set up school there, and accordingly went down and taught a year, employing his diligence to good effect.

"But his employers living so far asunder that they could not send their children to school all at one place, he was obliged to be often shifting and to go from one house to another, which was such a fatigue and labor to him, being in years and an infirm man, that he was not able to continue it, and returned to Shrewsbury, his former station."

It is evident from this statement that Mr. Robert Reynolds was then teaching in connection with Christ Church Society.



lies bought out the stockholders and sold the house. The directors of the district then purchased a lot west of the railroad depot, and erected the present frame school-house, thirty by forty feet in size. It has lately been fitted with modern school furniture.

Tinton Falls District, No. 78, contains one hundred and twenty-two children of school age. A lot was donated, in 1810, by Mr. Throckmorton for school purposes; the consideration was that the donor should have the ashes made in the house. A building was erected upon the lot and used until 1872, when the citizens voted two thousand five hundred dollars for a new school-house. The lot being considered undesirable, the trustees purchased a lot near the Methodist Church, on which they built the present house, which was opened January 16, 1873.

Woodlands District, No. 79, embraces territory in both the townships of Shrewsbury and Ocean. The house was built in 1856 on the township line in Shrewsbury. The district now contains fifty-two children of school age.

## THE TOWN OF RED BANK.

Red Bank, the most important town in the county of Monmouth, is situated at the head of navigation of the Navesink (otherwise known as Shrewsbury) River, on the south shore of the stream, within the limits of Shrewsbury township. The name of the town was given to it because of the red color of the soil of the river banks at that place.

The lands which now form the site of the town of Red Bank were, in the year 1808, embraced in the farm of Barnes Smock, who at that time kept a tavern on the point just north of where J. M. Atkins' Union Hotel now stands. The old tavern site is now a part of the Union Hotel property. In 1809 one Boyd kept a store east of Smock's tavern. About three hundred yards east of this store, and a few years later, Wainwright Brothers had a store on the old dock in front of John A. Worthley's

property. This store was kept from 1818 to 1821 by Robert Hart, and in the latter year was owned by Martin Chandler, who kept it until about 1830, when he sold to Joseph Parker.

A dock was built on the site of the present steamboat dock before 1809. The sloop "Fair Trader," owned by Esek White and others, ran from that dock to New York, carrying market produce. The Smock farm property came into possession of Esek White about 1820. In 1829, Joseph Parker opened a tavern on the hill back of the old dock. The store, tavern and dock were sold, about 1837, to Abram Springsteen, who, about 1845, sold to William Remsen, who built a grist-mill about fifty feet east of the dock. In later years the mill was discontinued and taken down. About 1855, D. W. Hendrickson built a grist-mill on the site of the Merchants' Steamboat Company's wharf. This mill was burned in 1857.

About 1833, Captain John Pintard ran the passenger sloop "Atlas" to the upper dock, where the coal-yards now are. Captain Joseph Parker ran the sloop "Benjamin Stevens" to the lower dock. The sloop "President" had run to the lower dock before the "Benjamin Stevens."

In 1829, Rice Hatsell came here from Riceville (now Navesink village), and erected the first store on the hill. It stood on the site of French's liquor-store. At that time an old store-house which had stood on Smock's Point had been moved in front of the old Smock tavern, and in this store building Thomas C. White and Jacob Corlies kept store several years after 1829. An old house, owned by Garret Morford, stood in the rear of the site of Worthley's new brick building, and it is still standing.

After the steamboats began running, a road was built down to the line between Esek White, Martin Chandler and along the line to the Remsen dock. The establishment of steamer lines brought to the place a number of persons, and town-lots were sold rapidly.

In 1829, Charles G. Allen settled at New-mau's Springs and built a store and wharf. In 1832 he built the schooner "Catharine Allen," of thirty tons; in 1835 he built the





"Mary Emma," of seventy tons; and in 1837, the "Margaret Klotz," of forty-five tons. In 1840 he removed to Red Bank and built a store on the site of Weaver's clothing-store, and kept it till 1846. He also built a dock for sloops and steamers. Thomas Hunt built the steamboat "Confidence," which ran to this dock until 1850. In 1843, Benjamin Laird kept the old Smock tavern, then called the Steamboat Hotel. He was succeeded in that house by Lewis Speneer, John Magee, William Frazer and others.

In November, 1834, Thomas E. Combs, formerly of West Freehold, who had been in business in Coenties Slip, New York, bought out the store of Riee Hatsell, and, with his brother, Aaron R. Combs, began business. Aaron soon after retired, and Thomas E. continued business until January 12, 1837, when Henry H. Conover was admitted to partnership with him. On the 1st of January, the next year, Combs retired, and moved to Tinton Falls, where he kept a store many years.

In 1829, Robert H. Wooley purchased two acres of land for one hundred and fifty dollars, on the corner of what is now Front and Broad Streets. Frightened at his purchase, he urged a friend to take half of it, but the offer was not accepted. He built a frame building (on the site of Spinning & Patterson's store), which was opened as a store by T. & J. W. Morford, who remained there until 1843. Upon the other land Robert H. Wooley and Isaae P. White opened a lumber-yard, which was kept there for many years. It was opposite the present lumber-yard on the north side of Broad Street.

The bridge across the river (over three hundred feet in length) was built before 1834. In that year Asher S. Parker, a native of the township, began business in Red Bank as a clerk for Shepherd Collett. In 1840 he went into the employ of Charles G. Allen. In 1847 he, with Francis Chadwick, began business on their own account and continued until 1878.

On the 19th of February, 1852, the Red Bank Steamboat Company was incorporated with a capital of fifty thousand dollars and the following-named corporators: Anthony H. Haggerty, John R. Conover, Edmund T. Wil-

liams, William Haight, William Applegate, David C. Conover, Pierson Hendrickson, Daniel Conover, Joseph Shepherd and John McBriar. On the 26th of February following the incorporation of this company the Middletown and Shrewsbury Transportation Company was incorporated, with capital of thirty thousand dollars and the following-named corporators: James Cooper, Richard Lufburrow, George Cooper, Robert Allen, James W. Borden, John E. Johnson and Charles G. Allen.

These two Companies each built steamboats; the Red Bank Company built first the "Thomas Hunt," and later the "Thomas Haight" and the "Alice Price." The Middletown and Shrewsbury Transportation Company built the "Golden Gate," and later the "Ocean Wave." These companies, with their steamboats, did a thriving business for about four years, when each had sunk its capital. Their debts were all paid and they retired from business.

William Remsen, soon after his settlement at Red Bank, in 1845, built two schooners,—the "Henry Remsen" of one hundred and forty tons, and the "Sarah Elizabeth," of eighty tons. These schooners were run in connection with his store and mill business. In July, 1837, James P. Allaire began running the steamboat "Isis" from Red Bank to New York, and soon after added the steamer "Osiris," and in June, 1841, a line of stages was established to run in connection with these boats from Manasquan River to Red Bank.

The first physician who settled at Red Bank was Dr. John R. Conover, who came to this place in 1837, and remained until 1857, when he was elected surrogate and removed to Freehold. He is more fully mentioned in the history of the Monmouth Medical Society in this volume.

Dr. R. R. Conover, brother of Dr. John Conover, came to Red Bank in 1859, and practiced until his death, in 1884.

Dr. William H. Hubbard, a son of Elias Hubbard and nephew of Dr. Jacobus Hubbard, Sr., of Tinton Falls, studied with Dr. Jacobus Hubbard, Jr., began practice at Tinton Falls in 1834, and in 1856 went to Long Island. In 1862 he removed to Red Bank, and is still in practice there.



Dr. William A. Betts came to Red Bank in 1860, and is still in practice. The physicians who are now at Red Bank other than as mentioned are Drs. T. E. Ridgway, Edwin Fields, J. E. Sayre, George Marsden and A. T. Trafford.

The post-office was established at Red Bank May 11, 1833, with Jacob McClane (who is still living) as postmaster. The office was kept in his store, which was on what is now the John Stout property. McClane was succeeded, in the winter of 1841-42, by Dr. John R. Conover, who continued until 1852. Forman Borden acted as his deputy. George E. Finch was appointed postmaster in 1852, and served until his death. He was succeeded by his widow, Mrs. Finch, who kept the office until about 1870, and was followed by Jacob Corlies. The present postmaster, William Applegate, was appointed June 17, 1880.

The Globe Hotel was built as a dwelling by Robert Hart, in 1840. In 1844, it was bought by Tobias Hendrickson, who enlarged and opened it as a hotel. It was bought in 1849 by his sons, Samuel T. and J. H. Hendrickson, who kept it many years, and still own it. E. C. Richardson is now the lessee of the house.

French's Central Hotel is on the site of the former residence of the Rev. R. T. Middle-ditch, which, about 1870, came into the possession of Peter R. Smock, who opened it as the Central Hotel; after his death it was continued for a time by his widow, until it was burned. The present hotel was built on its site in 1882, and is now kept by C. G. French.

The favorable location of Red Bank at the head of navigation on the river, and the fine agricultural country nearly surrounding it, together with its railway facilities in the later years, have all contributed largely to its growth, causing it to become what it is to-day,—the leading business town of Monmouth County. It has, like many other towns, been retarded by the occurrence of disastrous fires, of which may be mentioned those of January 1, 1880; July 18, 1881, December 3, 1881, and November 5, 1882, the last and most notable of which broke out on Sunday evening. The fire was discovered in the loft of Joseph W. Childs'

stable, in the rear of his bakery, on Broad Street. The fire extended south from Spinning & Patterson's store to the second lot below the First National Bank, destroying about twenty business-places and several dwellings, including the bank, First Methodist Church and the office of the *New Jersey Standard* newspaper.

Red Bank became an incorporated town in 1870 by the operation of "An Act for the Improvement of the Town of Red Bank, in the County of Monmouth," approved March 17th of that year, and which provides and declares:

"That the limits of the town of Red Bank, in the county of Monmouth, for the purposes of this act, shall be as follows: Beginning at a point where the middle of the public road leading from Red Bank to Shrewsbury intersects the middle of Irving Street; thence westerly on a line with the middle of Irving Street continued straight to the North Shrewsbury River; thence northwardly and eastwardly along the said river to the northeast corner of the land of the heirs of Edmund Throekmorton, deceased; thence southwardly to a point where the middle of the public road leading from Red Bank to Port Washington intersects the middle of the road leading from the last-mentioned road to Parkerville, by lands of David N. Byram and William L. Borden; thence southwardly along the middle of said Parkerville road to a point where the line of the middle of Irving Street continued eastwardly intersects the middle of the last-named road; thence westwardly to the place of beginning."

The commissioners are designated by the act as "The Board of Commissioners of Red Bank." The list of chief commissioners of the town from the time of its incorporation to the present is as follows: 1870-71, Samuel T. Hendrickson; 1871-72, John S. Applegate; 1872-73, James S. Throekmorton; 1873-74, William T. Corlies; 1874-78, Robert Allen, Jr.; 1878-80, Samuel Morford; 1880-84, John Sutton.

The clerks of the Board of Commissioners have been: 1870-72, Thomas H. Applegate; 1872-74, Larue N. White; 1874-83, Edmund T. Allen; 1883-84, R. Van Dyke Reed. Treasurers: 1870-72, J. Trafford Allen; 1872-74, Larue N. White; 1874-75, John Sutton; 1875-81, Thomas H. Applegate; 1881-84, William P. Corlies; 1884, Asher S. Parker.

In the winter of 1878-79 an application was made to the Legislature of 1878-79 to change





the name of Red Bank to "Shrewsbury City." An act supplementary to the original act of 1870 granting the application was passed and approved February 14, 1879,<sup>1</sup> notwithstanding which, the name remains as before.

The Fire Department of Red Bank was organized in 1879, with C.W. Thompson as chief. At that time there was but one organized company (Navesink Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1), which was chartered in 1872, with C. W. Thompson as foreman, who served until the organization of the Fire Department under the borough charter in 1879. In that year the Relief Fire Company, the Independent Fire Company, and the Relief and Liberty Hose Companies were organized. The Fire Department embraces these companies. The engines and apparatus are owned by the town, and under the care of companies as follows:

Navesink Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1, has sixty-three members, with C. B. Henderson as foreman. In addition to its hooks and ladders, it has charge of the "Little Giant," a four-wheel chemical engine, and five hundred feet of hose.

The Relief Engine Company has seventy members, with Thomas Warwiek foreman. Its apparatus is a Button hand-engine, seven hun-

dred and fifty feet of hose, and Little Giant, No. 2, four-wheel chemical engine, with one hundred and fifty feet of hose. It also has the hose of the Relief Hose Company, which was disbanded.

The Independent Engine Company numbers twenty-eight members, under Samuel Hughes, foreman, and has the charge of one Button hand-engine.

The Liberty Hose Company contains twenty-seven members and has seven hundred and fifty feet of hose, with the Independent engine.

The department was under charge of Chief C. W. Thompson from 1879 till 1881, when he was succeeded by Dr. Edwin Fields, who served one year. James Walsh was then appointed and also served one year, and in March, 1883, the present chief, Samuel Saques, was appointed.

THE RED BANK WATER-WORKS have been built by the town under authority of a general law passed by the Legislature at the session of 1884. Under this act, the town authorities, in May, 1884, appointed Anthony Reekless, John S. Applegate and William S. Sneden water commissioners, to devise the best method of supplying the town with pure and wholesome water, and to have the works constructed by contract awarded to the lowest bidder.

After much examination and discussion, it was decided to test the recommendations of Professor Cook, the State geologist, who was confident that an abundant supply of pure water existed under the Lower Marl Bed, which, in this locality, is from sixty to eighty feet below the surface.

Three artesian wells were bored to the water-bearing sand, which was reached at a depth of nearly seventy feet, and the water rose in the pipes to within ten feet of the surface. After thoroughly testing the flow by steam-pumping, it was decided by the engineers employed by the commissioners (Messrs. Wilson Brothers, of Philadelphia) to sink an open well fifteen feet in diameter to a point within ten feet of the bottom of the marl stratum, which was thirty-five feet thick, and from thence to put down

<sup>1</sup> The following was published in the *New York World*, at the time of the passage of the bill:

"EXIT RED BANK.

"The bill to change the name of Red Bank, N. J., to Shrewsbury City was yesterday passed by the Senate. The town of Red Bank is nearly forty years old and has a population approaching four thousand. It is situated at the navigable head of the Shrewsbury River, on the New Jersey Southern and the New York and Long Branch Railroads, and is the terminus of a steamboat line. It is twenty-five miles distant from this city and eight miles from Long Branch. It is beautified by many attractive cottages, which are occupied by wealthy residents, among these being Anthony Reekless, president of the New York and Long Branch Railroad; W. S. Sneden, manager of the New Jersey Southern Railroad; Robert Allen and W. W. Conover. It is a favorite residence of many New York people during the summer months. The town was named after the red banks of the Shrewsbury River, but its people were never satisfied with the name,—hence the change to Shrewsbury City. The town is incorporated, paved and lighted, and has two newspapers. It is the metropolis of Monmouth County."



five cast-iron pipes of three feet diameter, reaching through the marl and into the sand. This was accomplished with considerable difficulty, and a concrete floor put in around the top of the pipes, extending under the curb of the main well.

A pulsometer capable of discharging five hundred gallons per minute was kept constantly at work during the sinking of the well and the pipes. When the work was finished the water flowed up through the cast-iron pipes at the rate of two hundred and fifty thousand gallons in twenty-four hours. Its quality, as analyzed under Professor Cook's direction, is shown to be unexceptionable, very soft and pure, suitable for domestic purposes and steam boilers.

A reservoir has been constructed on the hill near the eastern side of the town of a capacity of nine hundred thousand gallons, and about three miles of mains laid in the principal streets, connecting the well and the reservoir. The elevation of the latter is one hundred and ten feet above the general level of the town.

The pumping apparatus at this writing (April, 1885) is not entirely completed, but is to consist of two duplex compound engines, of Worthington's make, acting vertically, the water-cylinders to be placed near the bottom of the well, so that the maximum flow can be secured.

Some two miles of additional pipes are being laid this spring. The whole cost of the works, with the town thoroughly piped, will come considerably within the limit authorized by the Legislature, which was sixty thousand dollars. It is confidently believed that no town in the State will be supplied with more pure and wholesome water than these works will furnish to Red Bank.

The Red Bank Gas-Light Company was organized under an act of Legislature passed February 18, 1862. The incorporators were James H. Peters, John W. Stout, S. T. Hendrickson, Henry S. Little, John R. Bergen and Anthony Reckless. Nothing was done until 1870. A supplement to the original act was passed in February, 1869, authorizing the company to lay pipes to Shrewsbury and Eatontown.

Contract was made with James M. Lawry, in 1870, to build the works and lay mains, for the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. The works were completed, and gas was first used in Red Bank in the fall of 1871. Asher S. Parker was president of the company and Anthony Reckless secretary. The company have at present about five miles of pipe laid. The present officers are John S. Applegate, president, and Henry S. Schroeder, secretary.

THE FORUM CONGREGATION OF RED BANK was a society of men who organized themselves into a debating society, and were incorporated June 27, 1835. They erected a building, thirty by forty feet, on the site of the Globe Hotel, which was called the Forum. At that time there was no church edifice in the place, and the Forum was used for all public gatherings, civil or religious. After the establishment of churches and societies the building was used for other purposes.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHREWSBURY, at Red Bank, was constituted August 7, 1844, the council being called by Sidney T. Smith, William McLane, John M. Smith, Joseph Carhart, Sarah J. Smith, Mary A. McLane, Ann Mount, Catharine Allen, Margaret Tilton, Mary Wallace, Deborah and Charlotte Carhart, who lived at Red Bank. The call was for a council to meet at Red Bank, July 17, 1844, and examine the merits of the request. The council met as requested, and after examination decided to constitute those who requested into a regular Baptist Church, on August 7, 1844. Upon the day appointed the council met and constituted the church with sixteen members, ten of whom were from the First Baptist Church of Middletown, five from the Second Baptist Church of Middletown and one from Tabernacle Baptist Church, New York City. On the 10th of August following, Joseph M. Smith and Sidney T. Smith were elected deacons; on the 21st of the same month, Thomas S. Griffiths, one of the constituent members, was ordained as pastor.

The church was incorporated July 1, 1845, and trustees elected March 8th. On the 8th of May following the trustees were author-





ized to select a lot on which to erect a house of worship. On December 13th it was resolved to build. The corner-stone was laid October 15, 1846; the Rev. John Dowling, D.D., of New York, preached upon the occasion. The church was not finished until 1849, and was dedicated July 17th in that year. It is still in use, having been enlarged during the pastorate of the Rev. R. T. Middleditch.

The Rev. Thomas S. Griffith resigned his pastorate in February, 1850. The Rev. Robert T. Middleditch began preaching August 3d in that year, and was called to be pastor December 1, 1851. He remained in charge until July 31, 1867, he having sent in his letter of resignation April 14th previous. The Rev. C. W. Clark was called September 22, 1867, accepted October 20th, in the same year, and resigned October 30, 1870. The Rev. E. J. Foote succeeded him February 26, 1871, and resigned in August, 1875. The Rev. Benjamin F. Leipsner began preaching September 1, 1875, and received a call to become their pastor October 5th following. He resigned December 1, 1882, to take effect January 1, 1883. He was succeeded by the present pastor, the Rev. J. M. Manning, who began his labors April 1st in that year. The church has a membership of three hundred and fifty-six.

THE RED BANK METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized, in 1844, under the charge of the Rev. William E. Perry.

Local preachers from the Long Branch Church had, for many years, occasionally visited this section,<sup>1</sup> and, in 1802, John Bethel, a native of Rumson Neck, was admitted to a traveling connection, and labored in this vicinity till 1810, when he located at a distance. William Mills, George Wooley, Benjamin Abbott and many others preached at private houses in this locality (from 1803) many years. Mrs. Sarah King, who left the neighborhood of what is now Red Bank in 1806, states that before that year much agitation had been made in reference to building a Methodist Church. Several locations had been

discussed; a lot belonging to Michael Hulett was surveyed and the cedars grubbed away; arrangements were made to build on the Scuffle-town road, which leads to Rumson. Stone for the foundation of a church was delivered on a tongue of land where the old road turned to go across the side of the hill leading to Rumson. Divided councils caused delay, years went by, and, in 1820, regular services began to be held at Rumson (now Little Silver), and, in 1822, a church was built there, and agitation ceased in this locality until 1844, when Rumson became a separate charge, and the Rev. William E. Perry, being on the charge, urged the Methodists of Red Bank to organize a church, which was done, as before mentioned.

Trustees were elected, September 8, 1845, as follows: Joseph W. Borden, Amos Tilton and Jeremiah Borden. The certificate of incorporation was filed October 1st following. A lot was purchased on Broad Street, north of the First National Bank. The corner-stone of a house of worship was laid October 8, 1845, the Rev. James Ayres, of New Brunswick, officiating. The building was completed the next year, and dedicated August 15, 1846. The church was used without change until 1866, when the old building was moved to the rear, made into a lecture-room and opened for service May 1, 1867.

A new and commodious edifice was begun in June, 1867. The church was completed and dedicated by Bishop Simpson, November 28th in the same year. The edifice cost fifteen thousand dollars, and was used until destroyed by fire, November 5, 1882. The society then purchased the present lot, at the corner of Main and Monmouth Streets, and laid the corner-stone of the present church August 1, 1883. It is of brick, seventy-five by one hundred feet in size, with an audience-room sixty feet square, and cost nineteen thousand five hundred dollars. It was dedicated March 9, 1884. Among the pastors since the organization have been Revs. R. S. Harris, John Scarlett, A. Ballard, George Hitchins, J. Lewis, I. D. King, R. A. Chalker, Charles E. Hill, S. E. Post, J. Stiles, C. W. Heisley, W. M. White and Henry Belting, who is the present pastor.

<sup>1</sup>The Rev. I. D. King, during his pastorate from 1865 to 1867, gathered facts in reference to Methodism in this section, from which the facts here given are obtained.



**GRACE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** was organized May 31, 1880, with forty-five members. A lot was purchased on Broad Street, and a church edifice, thirty-two by fifty-six feet in size, was erected, and dedicated May 8, 1881. The pastors have been the Revs. J. D. Norton, W. Wythe and J. R. Mace.

**THE TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH** of Red Bank originated in the establishment here of a mission from Christ Church of Shrewsbury, in 1851, at which time a small chapel was built, which, having been enlarged and improved at different times, is still used.

The parish was organized as Trinity parish of Red Bank, in January, 1859. The first rector was the Rev. W. N. Dunnell, who served until 1871, preaching his farewell sermon October 22d, in that year. He was succeeded by the Rev. A. Sydney Dealey, who closed his rectorship in December, 1875. The Rev. S. F. Hotchkiss began his rectorship February 15, 1876, and resigned in December, 1877. He was succeeded, in March, 1878, by the Rev. C. A. Tibbals, who continued until March, 1881. The Rev. J. Gibson Gantt served as a supply a short time, and on the 18th of April, 1882, the present rector, the Rev. Joseph F. Jowitt, assumed the rectorship. The church has one hundred and twenty-five communicants and one hundred and thirty-nine families.

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RED BANK** was organized by the Presbytery of New Brunswick in June, 1852, being constituted of twenty-seven members, all from Shrewsbury Church. Mr. F. Reek Harbaugh, a licentiate of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, was ordained and installed pastor October 23, 1853, and resigned October 23, 1854. He has been followed by William Scribner, February 7, 1855, to February 2, 1858; D. Dubois Sahler, July 20, 1858, to July 23, 1863; Daniel V. McLean, D.D., March 9, 1864, to November 23, 1869; John R. Hamilton, June 7, 1870, to October 2, 1873; F. Reek Harbaugh, the present pastor, May 18, 1874.

The corner-stone of a church edifice was laid June 12, 1855. The church was completed the

following year, and dedicated August 13, 1856. It has since been repaired and remodeled.

**THE ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH** at Red Bank was organized by Rev. James Collan, who, in 1854, erected a church, twenty-nine by seventy-two feet, on the present site at the corner of Pearl and Wall Streets. It was remodeled in 1873 by Father J. F. Saloan, and St. James' Hall, adjoining the church, was built in 1879. It is of brick, thirty-five by eighty feet in size, and two stories in height, the upper room being used for a hall and the lower for a parish school. The congregation numbers one thousand souls. The Rev. John Kelly succeeded Father Collan, and served this church and St. Joseph, at Keyport, from 1854 to 1862. Thomas M. Killeen became pastor in April, 1863, and served until 1867. Under his pastorate the present parsonage was built. He was succeeded by the Rev. J. T. Saloan, who remained until 1876, and on July 1st in that year the present pastor, the Rev. M. E. Kane, was appointed. Under him a debt of three thousand five hundred dollars was paid (one-half of which was donated by Mrs. Ellen Dykers de Navarro), and St. James' Hall was also erected by him.

**THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH**, now of Red Bank, was organized many years ago at Fair Haven, where a church was erected and used until it was burned, when the society erected the present church, which was dedicated December 25, 1873.

**RED BANK SCHOOL DISTRICT, No. 75**, contains two school-houses and has within its limits eight hundred and sixty-three children of school age. The first school taught in this locality was kept by George Morford, in 1816, in a little school-house east of J. Trafford Allen's lumber-yard, and in which house he lived. About 1830, Ezek White donated a lot of ground now on Mechanic Street, and which is the present school-lot. On this lot a school-house was built and used until 1870. It was sometimes called the Academy. John D. Denison kept there many years. About 1848, Miss Hartshorne kept a private school, and was succeeded by Miss Hatfield.





As the town increased in population the demand for school accommodations also increased, and on June 6, 1860, a meeting of the citizens was held to decide on the building a new school-house. Nothing was done to accomplish the work at this time, and several years passed before the subject was again agitated. In the winter of 1866-67 a number of citizens, desirous of having better facilities for education, presented a bill to the Legislature for the incorporation of an academy. The bill was passed March 14, 1867. The institution was styled "Orient Academy." The incorporators were Anthony Reckless, James H. Peters, Asher S. Parker, Thomas Morford, Joseph C. Fisher, John S. Applegate, Francis Chadwick, John R. Bergen, John W. Parker, Rev. D. V. McLean, D.D., and the Rev. Robert T. Middleditch, D.D. Nothing was accomplished by this incorporation except an organization. On the 2d of June, 1868, a meeting of citizens was again held, and it was resolved to build a school-house at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. This project also failed. In the year 1869 there were four schools kept in the town,—two in the old building on Mechanic Street and two in a rented house on the south side of Front Street.

In March, 1870, Red Bank became an incorporated town, and was embraced in one school district. The agitation at this time was strong for a new and more commodious school-house. It was not, however, until September in that year that a resolution was passed to build a new school-house, and at the meeting then held, ten thousand dollars was voted for the purpose. A contract was made with Spinning & Reilley for the erection of a brick building, fifty feet square, on the old lot on Mechanic Street. The building was completed the next year, and opened August 21, 1871. During the following winter the scholars were all examined and graded, thus forming the first graded school of Monmouth County. This result was brought about mainly by the special exertion of Charles D. Warner, who had for many years been a teacher and a member of a board of examiners in Massachusetts.

The average attendance of scholars at the

time of opening the new school-house, in 1871, was one hundred and seventy-two; the year following, the number reached an average within four of being double that number; and in 1876 the average was about five hundred. The demand for greater accommodation required another school-house. A lot was purchased on Oakland Street, and a brick building, about forty feet square and two stories in height, was erected in 1877, and was first used in the following winter.

The principals of the school from 1871 have been Albert Clark, 1871-72; William Hubbard, 1872-73; A. B. Guilford, 1873-79; Richard Case, 1879 to the present time. Charles D. Warner has been district clerk from the organization of the district, in 1871, to the present, except a short time.

The *New Jersey Standard*, the oldest newspaper of Red Bank, was established in April, 1852, by Henry Morford, now deceased, who commenced the publication of the paper at Matawan and soon after moved it to Keyport. Mr. Morford continued as publisher and editor for some time, and being a man of unusual literary attainments, made the *Standard* a permanent affair, though not very successful financially. Charles Conrow became proprietor after a while, and he in turn was succeeded by Rev. Robert T. Middleditch and Anthony Reckless, who removed the paper to Red Bank, where the former was pastor of the Baptist Church. This was in 1860. Seven years afterward Mr. Reckless sold out to William J. Ward, Mr. Middleditch continuing on the editorial staff of the paper. In July, 1867, Mr. Middleditch in turn disposed of his share to Jonathan R. Ingling. These two gentlemen were associated together in business till March, 1874, when Mr. Ingling became the sole proprietor of the concern. Mr. Ingling continued as editor and proprietor for five years. During this period he was assisted in his editorial labors at different times by Henry Clay and William T. Cole. In October, 1879, Benjamin M. Hartshorne purchased the paper, and put his brother, Edward Hartshorne, a gentleman of rare knowledge and culture, in charge. Mr. Harts-



horne occupied the editorial chair till April, 1882, during which period Charles A. Dubois acted as assistant editor. At that time Mr. Hartshorne withdrew, and Mr. Dubois became editor and John S. Hendrickson business manager, the establishment still being owned by Benjamin M. Hartshorne. In November, 1882, the office and appurtenances were entirely consumed by fire, the books being all that was saved. A new outfit, upon which no money was spared, was procured, and publication continued as usual, not a single issue being lost. In April, 1883, the entire concern was purchased by Conrad Pinches, the present proprietor and editor, who has the assistance of Roderic C. Penfield in his duties. The *Standard* office is located on Front Street, one of the two principal thoroughfares of the town. It occupies an entire building twenty-five by seventy-five feet in size, owned by the proprietor.

The *Red Bank Register* was established by John H. Cook and Henry Clay in 1878, the first issue appearing June 27th. Mr. Clay retired in the fall of 1879, and it is still conducted by John H. Cook. It is Republican in politics. The office is in the third story of the brick building corner of Broad and Front Streets.

Of other papers that have been temporarily published in Red Bank were *The Red Bank Leader*, first issued September 21, 1871, by Julian E. Ralph and Albert Abers. It continued nine weeks. *The Democrat* was started in September, 1882, by Colonel Trafford. It ran one year and one week. In November, 1883, Charles A. Dubois, foreman of the *Standard*, started *The Independent*. It continued until September 19, 1884, when it was purchased by John L. Wheeler and issued as a Democratic campaign paper.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF RED BANK was authorized May 30, 1864, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, which was increased to one hundred thousand dollars February 11, 1865. The bank was organized by the election of officers April 4, 1864, at which time Asher S. Parker was elected president, and continued until January 18, 1879, when James H. Peters was chosen and served until January 14, 1882,

when Asher S. Parker, the present president, was again elected. At a meeting of the directors held June 28, 1864, Henry B. Crane was elected cashier and served until November, 1867. His successors have been Alvin Chadwick, November 9, 1867; Horatio Ely, Jr., December 23, 1874; James L. Terhune, March 11, 1882.

The bank opened for business July 1, 1864, in the office of R. Allen, Jr., and continued there until the completion of a banking-office on the present site, in November following, to which place the bank was then moved, and where it continued until the destruction of the building by the great fire of November 5, 1882. During the building of the present banking-office, business was transacted in the parlor of Mrs. Chadwick's house, two doors south. The present bank building is of brick, twenty by forty-five feet in size; main office, twenty-three feet in height. It is elegantly finished in cherry and tiles and with marble floor. The building was completed at a cost of seventeen thousand dollars and was first occupied May 10, 1883..

THE SECOND NATIONAL BANK OF RED BANK began business July 1, 1875, with an authorized capital of seventy-five thousand dollars. The present bank building was erected in that year on Front Street, opposite the Globe Hotel. John S. Applegate is president and Isaac B. Edwards cashier.

NAVESINK LODGE, No. 39, I. O. OF O. F., was chartered May 7, 1846, with John Borden, Henry Conover, Seth Sturtevant, George D. Allaire and Mathias Conover as charter members. Meetings were held over a wheelwright-shop on the site of John Bergen's store. In 1848 they removed to rooms fitted for their purpose in a building that stood on the site of James H. Peters' store, where the meetings were held for many years. In 1869 they removed to their present rooms in Sutton's building. The lodge has a membership of eighty. The present officers are C. G. Worthley, N. G.; John Dye, V. G.; Jos. W. Child, Sec'y.; John Sutton, Treas.

NEPTUNE ENCAMPMENT, No. 45, I. O. OF O. F., was chartered November 15, 1870, and has at present thirty members. Their meetings are held in the hall of the Navesink Lodge, C. D. Worthley, C. P.





**MYSTIC BROTHERHOOD No. 21, F. AND A. M.**, was chartered January 4, 1852, as Navesink Lodge, No. 21, with Thomas E. Combs W. M.; John McBriar, Sen. W.; John E. Norris, Jun. W. The name was changed to that of Mystic Brotherhood January 10, 1855. Meetings were held for several years at old Odd-Fellows' Hall, where James Peters' building now stands. Afterwards, for a time, they were held in the school-house on Mechanic Street, from which place they moved to Esck White's building, then to John Sutton's, in 1876 to Wild's building, and April 1, 1885, it is proposed to move to Music Hall. The present officers are Edwin Fjeld, W. M.; George T. Hook, Sen. M.; Arthur H. White, Jun. M.; M. A. Van Schoick, Treasurer; Jehu P. Cooper, Secretary. The society numbers seventy-one members.

**HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 1, F. AND A. M.**, was instituted at Trenton, as Hiram Chapter, No. 4, of the State of New Jersey. The number was probably changed to No. 1 by authority of the Grand Chapter, September 9, 1857. Authority was given to move to Eatontown, February 25, 1856, and to Red Bank, January 1, 1881. It at present contains fifty-one members, with the following officers: William Cullington, H. P.; George T. Hook, Scribe; William C. Park, King; Edwin Field, Captain of the Host; George B. Sneden, Principal Sojourner; William A. Cole, Royal Arch Captain; Jehu P. Cooper, Secretary.

**SHREWSBURY LODGE, No. 72, K OF P**; was instituted March 1, 1884. It has now sixty-two members. The lodge meets at Odd-Fellows' Hall. Charles E. Wickliff is Chancellor Commander.

**ARROWSMITH POST, No. 61, G. A. R.**, was organized December 6, 1881, with twenty-three members. Their meetings were held in Odd-Fellows' Hall until August, 1883, when they moved to rooms fitted up for them in Childs' new block. The post now numbers one hundred and two members. Henry M. Nevius was elected commander upon its organization, and remained until elected commander of the Department of New Jersey. He was succeeded as commander of this post by Major Joseph T. Fields, in January, 1884. The officers for

1885 are: Commander, George A. Bowne; Senior Vice-Commander, William H. Foster; Junior Vice-Commander, John H. Heyer; Chaplain, Richard Lawrence; Quartermaster, John W. Chandler; Surgeon, Charles Curtis; Officer of the Day, William J. Sickles; Officer of the Guard, Everett Miller; Delegates, R. R. Mount, Henry C. Terhune.

**THE MUTUAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF RED BANK** was formed about 1880 by a few citizens, who gathered together about three hundred volumes of books, which were kept in Vandergrift's store, and were mostly burned in the fire of November, 1882. The organization was kept up, more books were procured, and in May, 1884, rooms were rented in Childs' building and opened as a library and reading-room. The association now has four hundred volumes. The tables in the reading-room are supplied with newspapers and periodicals. The officers are Mrs. T. D. Finch, president; Mrs. Joseph Burrowes, secretary; George Borden, librarian; Mrs. W. T. Corlies, treasurer.

**THE SHREWSBURY MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY** was incorporated by act of the Council and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, passed February 27, 1838, the office to be located in the township of Shrewsbury. The directors appointed were

George A. Corlies.	John P. Lewis.
Gabriel West.	Edmund West.
John P. Corlies.	George A. White.
Joseph E. White.	Tunis Vanderveer.
Jacob Dennis.	Thomas Thomas.
Edmund W. Allen.	

The directors organized March 31, 1838, when Joseph E. White was elected president; Gabriel West, vice-president; and Edmund T. Williams, secretary; Thomas Thomas, John P. Lewis and Edmund W. Allen a committee to draft by-laws and blank policies and present them to the next meeting for approval, etc., and also a seal. The directors met April 14th, and elected George A. Corlies treasurer. At a directors' meeting, June 2d: "Resolved, as soon as applications shall have been made amounting to fifty thousand dollars, policies shall be issued on each and every approved application, and not before."



The company commenced issuing policies July 14, 1838. At the annual meeting of the stockholders, the first Monday in January, 1839, the company had issued policies to the amount of \$110,890; amount of notes or bonds, \$5930.10; received in cash, \$355.81; amount paid for printing, etc., \$73.33,—leaving a balance on hand of \$282.43.

At said first meeting of the stockholders the following-named persons were elected directors, viz. :

Edmund W. Allen.	Gabriel West.
Benjamin C. White.	George A. Corlies.
Ethan A. Fay.	John P. Corlies.
Tunis Vanderveer.	Henry W. Wolcott.
John P. Lewis.	Edmund T. Williams.
Joseph E. White.	

May 24, 1839, less than one year after commencing business or insuring, Dr. Smith Cutter's barn was burned. Insured for four hundred dollars, which was promptly paid.

In 1853, being less than fifteen years from the time the company commenced, insuring and paying losses to the amount of four thousand three hundred and fifty dollars, they paid a dividend of one hundred cents to the dollar for all the money the stockholders had paid for insurance, principal and interest. This was done to begin anew, that new stockholders should have no advantage over the old ones, as no bonds could be taxed as long as there was any cash in the treasury.

In 1867 they made a dividend amounting to \$7778.06; in 1871 to \$8583.69; in 1876 to \$12,145.04; and in 1881 to \$9981.94,—making four dividends since 1853, amounting to \$38,497.73 in twenty-eight years, and have paid losses to January 1, 1885, \$69,728. Losses and dividends since 1853 amount to \$808,225.73, and the company has cash on hand amounting to over \$20,000.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

ISAAC PENINGTON WHITE was born at Rumson, in the township of Shrewsbury, in the county of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, on April 7, 1804. His father, Esek White, his grandfather and his great-grandfather were all born and died in the township

of Shrewsbury,—an example of an unusual love of locality. Isaac P. White's early advantages in an educational way were only such as the schools in his locality afforded at the early period of his boyhood. While still a boy he left home and entered the general merchandise store of Corlies & Allen, at Shrewsbury town, in Shrewsbury township. After remaining a few years with this firm, he went to Brooklyn, N. Y., and was there engaged in mercantile business for many years. About 1830 he removed to Red Bank, where, with Robert H. Woolley, he started the first lumber business in the county of Monmouth. On November 2, 1842, the subject of this sketch was married to Adaline Simmons, at Phelps, then known as Vienna, Ontario County, in the State of New York. Three children were born to them,—Henry S., a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere; Theodore S., who died just as he had reached manhood; and James S., who died when about twelve years of age. Mr. White retired from active business about 1847. He was a director in a number of insurance companies, and in the Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company he was one of the managing directors. After his retirement from business he was the administrator or executor of a number of estates.

In religion, Mr. White was a Friend, or, as more popularly called, a Quaker, as were also his parents. He, however, attended the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife was long a devout and consistent member.

In politics, Mr. White was an ardent Whig during the life of that party, and until the time of the defeat of Henry Clay for the Presidency, after which he took no further interest in politics until the birth of the Republican party. Coming into being as the lineal descendent (so to speak) of the old Whig party, with human freedom as its corner-stone, and unalterably opposed to the wickedness of human slavery and its extension, Mr. White naturally acted with that party, and continued to the end of his life an active and earnest Republican. Though often urged to accept office, he never would permit himself to become a candidate for any political position.







*Saml J. White*





*Francis Chadwick*







*Charles B. Allen*



In 1873, Mr. White removed to Jersey City, where he continued to reside until his death, January 28, 1876. His remains were taken to Fairview Cemetery, near Red Bank, and a handsome granite monument now marks the place where he lies buried,—almost within sight of the very spot where he and his ancestors for one hundred and fifty years were born, and passed quiet, useful and honorable lives.

FRANCIS CHADWICK.—Taber Chadwick, the father of Francis, was born on the 7th of March, 1773, and died on the 7th of October, 1843. He married Deborah Longstreet, whose birth occurred July 25, 1787, and her death September 14, 1883. Their children were Francis; born in 1805, who died in 1810; Richard, in 1807, who died in 1808; Jeremiah, in 1808, who died in 1818; Lydia, in 1810, who died in 1881; Francis (2d), born March 18, 1813; Richard L., in 1816, who died in 1836; Sarah Ann, in 1818; Catharine, in 1819; Jeremiah, in 1822; Deborah, in 1824; Lucinda, 1826, who died in 1884; and Angeline, born in 1829. The birth of Francis Chadwick occurred at Red Bank, where his father was a representative attorney. Here he received such instruction as was obtainable at the common schools, and soon after engaged in active employment as captain of a schooner plying between Red Bank and New York. He was, on the 9th of September, 1835, married to Margaret A., daughter of Captain Joseph Parker, of Red Bank, and had children,—Richard L., deceased; Joseph P., of Red Bank; Mary H. (Mrs. Henry Wood, of New York); Frank T., a practicing physician in Red Bank; Alvin, of Red Bank; Margaret, deceased; Deborah, deceased; and S. Matilda. Mr. Chadwick, on his marriage, abandoned the career of a mariner, and, under the firm-name of Parker & Chadwick, engaged in mercantile pursuits, subsequently extending his business by extensive transactions in lumber and coal. He was also largely and profitably interested in shipping, running a line of vessels from Red Bank to New York. In all these ventures he was successful, his various commercial interests ranking among the most important in

that portion of the county. He remained thus employed until a disastrous conflagration induced him to retire from active business and afforded an opportunity of selling advantageously. As a Republican, he was much interested in the public movements of the day, and was a strong partisan, though not a party worker nor a candidate for official honors. He was for many years a member of the Presbyterian Church at Red Bank, and formerly active in the work of the Sabbath-school. As a leading and representative citizen his death, which occurred May 30, 1882, in his seventieth year, was much regretted.

CHARLES GORDON ALLEN was born in Middletown township, Monmouth County, N. J., opposite the town of Red Bank, on the 4th of August, 1800. His parents, James and Mary Gordon Allen, were residents of the same township, their ancestors, who were of Scotch and English descent, having been among the earliest settlers of that part of the State, and identified with many of the stirring scenes of the Revolution, which were related with thrilling interest by them. At the age of thirteen Mr. Allen was sent to the city of New York, with a view of acquiring a knowledge of the manufacture of looking-glass frames, and having become thoroughly familiar with the business, he pursued it successfully on his own account until 1826. On the 22d of May, 1823, he married Catharine Trafford, a native of Shrewsbury township, and of English descent, whose ancestors were among the earliest settlers of that section of the country. Their children were ten in number, seven of whom survive him,—Margaret; Mary; Deborah C., wife of the Hon. John S. Applegate, a prominent lawyer and recently State Senator; Robert, a leading lawyer and for a number of years prosecutor of the pleas of the county; J. Trafford, actively engaged in business at Red Bank; George K., a Baptist clergyman, resident in Jersey City; and James P., whose business interests are in New York City.

During the year 1826, Mr. Allen embarked in the sale of dry-goods in Grand Street, New York City, and remained thus interested until his purchase, in 1829, of a considerable tract of





land in Shrewsbury township, when, with his family, he removed to Newman Springs. Here his mercantile instincts led him to enter the dry-goods and grocery business, at the same time building several vessels, which plied to New York and other sea-port towns. In the year 1841 he removed to Red Bank, on the Navesink River, continuing his mercantile career, and at the same time building a wharf and erecting many new buildings in what is now deemed the business centre of the town. He was also instrumental in establishing a new line of communication between Red Bank and New York, other than the one then in use, by the steamers "Golden Gate" and "Ocean Wave," the building of which he personally superintended, and which were run to a wharf in the upper part of the village, constructed by him for the purpose. He possessed an active and energetic mind, and ever manifested a lively interest in the growth and prosperity of the town, having latterly erected many buildings, including stores and dwellings. He was treasurer of the Agricultural and Furniture Company, near the railroad depots, and the owner of considerable real estate in town. One of the oldest and most representative citizens of Red Bank, no other has contributed in a greater degree to its material advancement. An Old-Line Whig in politics, on the extinction of that party he allied himself to the Republican party, and was until his death, which occurred March 31, 1885, a zealous supporter of its principles.

EDMUND THROCKMORTON, son of Joseph F. Throckmorton, was born in 1792, at Harts-horne's Mills, near Freehold, and in 1813 embarked in mercantile ventures at Philadelphia, Pa., where he continued until 1820, when, retiring from active business pursuits, he removed to Red Bank, and devoted his time to agriculture until his death. He married Susannah, daughter of John MacLaren, of New York, to which union were born ten children, five of whom survive him. Mr. Throckmorton was among the leading representative citizens of his day in the county, and actively identified with its social and business interests. His influence was also apparent in the development

of Red Bank, every enterprise which tended to promote its advancement and further its growth as a commercial centre finding in him generous co-operation and material support. He was a no less influential factor in political than in business projects. Modest in demeanor and indifferent to the honors conferred for party service, he was, nevertheless, one of the leading Henry Clay Whigs of his day. A strong partisan and zealous in defense of the principles of his party, he was frequently a delegate to county and state conventions, where his judicious counsels won respectful attention. His ability as a financier, combined with the most scrupulous integrity, caused him frequently to be chosen for the offices of executor and trustee, which important trusts were filled with fidelity and wisdom. Mr. Throckmorton, though not a member, was an active supporter of the First Presbyterian Church of Shrewsbury, to which he gave with an ungrudging liberality. His death occurred in September, 1866, in his seventy-fifth year.

TYLEE W. THROCKMORTON, son of Edmund Throckmorton, was born February 22, 1823, at Red Bank, and received his preliminary education at Bristol, Pa., after which his studies were continued at Shrewsbury and, later, at Elizabeth. Having during this time made engineering a specialty, he engaged, on his return, in farming, and found also many opportunities for the exercise of his skill as an engineer. On the 26th of February, 1844, on attaining his majority, he married Anna Maria, daughter of Edward Smith, of Monmouth County. Their children are Elizabeth De Hart (wife of James Marshall, of New York), Harriet (wife of Dr. James S. Conover, of Freehold) and Edward W. Mr. Throckmorton for many years combined his profession of surveying with the labors of a farmer, purchasing, in 1860, a farm in Howell township, and the following year another in the immediate vicinity, meanwhile continuing his residence at Rumson until his later removal to Red Bank. Having been during this time more or less engaged in real estate operations, he, in 1884, in connection with his son, established a real estate and insurance





ENG<sup>d</sup> J. A. F. RICHIE

*Edmund Hooker*







Eng'd by A.H. Ritchie

*Wm. Shrockmorton*





Joseph A. Thwaites





office, in which business they are still interested. Mr. Throckmorton has, during his active business life, been identified with the interests of his native town, promoting in various ways its industries, and contributing both capital and influence to its important enterprises. He has been, as a Republican, a leading spirit in various local political movements, but has never accepted office other than those connected with the township. He is a director of the Second National Bank of Red Bank. In his religious preferences Mr. Throckmorton adheres to the Presbyterian faith, and is a supporter of the church of that denomination at Shrewsbury.

JOSEPH A. THROCKMORTON, the third son of Edmund Throckmorton, was born on the 3d of July, 1827, in the dwelling at Red Bank which is his present home. He was educated at Elizabeth, N. J., and early deciding upon a mercantile career, in 1842 removed to Tennessee, where he engaged in the fur business, returning in 1848 for a brief period to Red Bank, after which he, in 1849, joined the numerous throng of emigrants for the gold-fields of California. Here he engaged in mining operations, remaining until 1856, when, on resuming again his residence in Red Bank, he embarked in the lumber business, and now ranks among the leading and successful capitalists of the place. He was, on the organization of the First National Bank of Red Bank, made one of its directors, and now fills the same office in connection with the Second National Bank. He is director of the Red Bank and Eatontown Turnpike Company, having formerly filled the same office in connection with the Leedsville and Red Bank Turnpike Company. He is also a director of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Shrewsbury. With a loyal affection for the place of his nativity, Mr. Throckmorton has entered heartily into nearly all the important schemes which have promoted its growth and affected its moral well-being. True to the traditions of his family, he early espoused the principles of the Old Line Whig party, and on the organization of the Republican party became a warm partisan in its cause. He has frequently served as delegate to state and county conventions, but

declines all proffers of office, preferring to be a worker in the ranks rather than a sharer in the honors that follow in the path of success. He is often sought for such positions as executor and guardian and for various other trusts involving much responsibility. Mr. Throckmorton's early religious teachings have caused him to adhere to the Presbyterian faith and to contribute generously to the support of that church.

COLONEL EDMUND T. WILLIAMS.—Edmund Williams, the grandfather of Colonel Williams, who was of Welsh extraction, resided at Colt's Neck, in Atlantic township, where he pursued the varied duties devolving upon a farmer, miller and merchant. He married Miriam Tilton, of the same township, whose children were a son, Tylee, and daughters,—Margaret (Mrs. Joseph Throckmorton), Phebe (Mrs. Henry Burr), Elizabeth (Mrs. Joseph Allen), Ann (Mrs. Woodward), Mary (Mrs. Samuel W. Ten Brook) and Miriam (Mrs. Seth Lippincott). Tylee, the only son, was born January 30, 1768, at Colt's Neck, where he followed the life of an agriculturist. He married Elizabeth Hartshorne, on the 10th of January, 1792, and had children,—Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Parker, born in 1792; Edmund, in 1795; Miriam, wife of Benjamin Corlies, born in 1797; Hannah, wife of Joseph Woolley, in 1800; Phebe (Mrs. Jacob H. Corlies) in 1802; Edmund T., October 30, 1804; Esek Hartshorne, 1807; Jane (Mrs. Robert Wardell) in 1810; Mary, in 1812; Susannah, in 1814; and George in 1818, of whom four survive. The birthplace of Edmund T. was Colt's Neck, from which locality he, in 1807, removed to Shrewsbury on land which constitutes his present home. He was educated at the Westtown Boarding-School, Chester County, Pa., where he remained three years, and concluded his studies under John Gummere, at Burlington, N. J. He there combined the labor of a farmer with the profession of a surveyor. The death of his father having made a portion of the homestead farm his own, he purchased the remainder, and has since that time been devoted to the business of an agriculturist, though his later years have been given merely to the superin-



tendence of its varied interests. Colonel Williams was, in 1836, married to Lucy, daughter of Captain William Carpenter, of New York State. Aside from his farming occupations, Colonel Williams has led a life of much activity as a surveyor, been engaged in the settlement of many estates and frequently filled the office of executor and administrator. He has acted since 1838, the year of incorporation, as secretary of the Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and was formerly director of the Red

GEORGE HANCE is descended from German parentage, his grandfather having been John Hance, who resided at Rumson Neck, in Monmouth County. By his marriage to a Miss Waples were born children,—Waples; John; Isaac; Rachel, wife of Asher Corlies; Elizabeth, wife of George Woolley. John Hance, of this number, was born at Rumson Neck on the 20th of August, 1762, and died August 13, 1827. He married Ann, daughter of James Borden, whose birth occurred June 17, 1778,



*Edmund J. Williams,*

Bank Steamboat Company and the Red Bank and Eatontown Turnpike Company. He is also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. As a Whig, he, in 1837-38, represented his district in the State Legislature, and has been the incumbent of various township offices. He has been active in the promotion of all religious and moral projects, and for years identified with Christ Protestant Episcopal Church of Shrewsbury, in which he is senior warden and an earnest worker.

and her death May 28, 1856, in Monmouth County. The children of this marriage were Borden, born April 10, 1801; John H., April 13, 1803; Asher, February 14, 1805; George, March 8, 1808; Margaret B., March 11, 1810 (wife of William Hance); and Susan B., May 14, 1812. The birth of George Hance occurred at Bingham Hill, on Rumson Neck, in Shrewsbury township, where the paid schools of the day afforded him advantages of education equal to those common in that early day. His chosen







Geo. W. H. 1850

George Harvie



occupation was that of a farmer, the wisdom of which choice has been fully demonstrated in the exceptional success attending all his agricultural undertakings. His father having died when his son, the subject of this sketch, was but sixteen years of age, together with his mother and brothers he cultivated the home farm for a series of years. He was, on the 15th of February, 1838, married to Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah White, of the same township, their children being John, born November 30, 1838; Georgianna, May 15, 1840, wife of Dr. James H. Patterson; Susan J., March 17, 1842, wife of Samuel H. Patterson; and Borden, born August 18, 1849 (deceased). The grandfather of Mrs. Hance was George White, son of Thomas and Christian White. He married Ann, daughter of John Lippincott. Their son, Benjamin White, father of Mrs. Hance, was born December 12, 1755, and married to Sarah Decoue, of Burlington County, N. J. Mr. White, who was for fifty years postmaster of Shrewsbury, engaged during the period of the Revolution in mercantile pursuits, and served during that memorable struggle, under General Putnam. George Hance was ambitious, however, to extend his business relations and become the possessor of more land than was embraced in the farm left by his father. He, therefore, after his marriage, purchased his present house in Shrewsbury, and has since made it his residence. A man of great industry, superior judgment and thorough knowledge of the business in which he is engaged, his projects have been both successful and profitable. To his original purchase he has added from time to time—indicating always in the selection of his land much wisdom and experience—until the total area is seven hundred and forty acres in the county, with one hundred and fourteen acres of outlands. He gives much attention to the raising of stock, and was for years a well-known grower of peaches, as of other fruit, his apple orchards being a feature of the county, and the product of his cider-presses as well. Mr. Hance formerly identified himself with the leading enterprises of the county, including banks, steamboat companies, turnpikes, etc., in

many of which companies he was a director, but has more recently resigned his connection with these and similar organizations. He has frequently been appointed by the courts, and accepted the position of commissioner in the division of property. He has affiliated in politics with either the Whig or Republican parties, but has never participated actively in political movements, either local or otherwise. Mr. Hance was educated in the faith of the Society of Friends, to which Mrs. Hance still adheres, though he is a willing supporter of the Presbyterian Church.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### UPPER FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Upper Freehold is in the extreme southwestern part of Monmouth County, only one township of which adjoins it, viz.: the township of Millstone, which forms its boundary on the north and northeast. The other boundaries of Upper Freehold are: On the southeast the county of Ocean, on the southwest the county of Burlington, and on the northwest the county of Mercer. The streams of the township all flow in a general northwesterly direction, their waters entering the Delaware River. The largest of these is Crosswicks Creek, which, with its tributary, Lahaway Creek, flows across the southwest corner of the township. Doctor Creek flows through the central part, and unites with Indian Creek, which forms a part of the northwestern boundary against Mercer County. Assanpink Creek marks a part of the northern boundary of this township against that of Millstone. The Pemberton and Hightstown Railroad traverses Upper Freehold from south to north. The population of the township by the United States census of 1880 was three thousand two hundred and thirty-six.

The record of the original formation of Upper Freehold township cannot be found, and therefore the precise date is not known. It is certain, however, that it was laid out prior to 1731, as an assessment roll of the township for that year is still in existence, showing that this was then





one of the four townships of Monmouth County. The total valuation of the county was £18,949 7s.; the total of Upper Freehold being £3306 10s. The tax which was assessed in that year for the building of a county jail was £236 17s. 3d., of which the quota of Upper Freehold was £41 6s. 7½d. The township collector was John Lawrence.

In 1767 an act was passed "To divide the Town of Shrewsbury and annex parts thereof to the towns of Freehold and Upper Freehold." This act provides, first, for the laying out of the township of Dover (now in Ocean County) from a part of Shrewsbury, then proceeds to annex a certain part to Freehold, and finally to annex to Upper Freehold, "All that part of the town of Shrewsbury, beginning where Burlington Old Path crosseth the before mentioned north branch of Tom's River, thence running south eighteen degrees east to the line of Dover aforesaid; thence south fifty-six degrees west, along said line of Dover to the before-mentioned line called Keith's line; thence along the said line to the line of Upper Freehold; thence along the line of Upper Freehold to where it began, shall be, and is hereby divided off from the said town of Shrewsbury, and annexed unto the town of Upper Freehold, and forever hereafter shall be accounted part thereof."

In 1844 the area of Upper Freehold was reduced by the passage of an act taking the northern part of its territory to form the new township of Millstone. The description of the territory thus severed from Upper Freehold is given in full in the history of Millstone township.

In 1849 an act was passed annexing to Plumstead a small part of Upper Freehold, within boundaries described as beginning "at the mouth of Lahaway, at its junction with Crosswicks Creek; thence down the middle of said Crosswicks Creek to the Burlington County line; thence southwardly along the division line between the counties of Burlington and Monmouth to the northwest corner of the township of Plumsted, at Arneytown; thence along the middle of the Hornerstown road to the Crosswicks Creek; thence down the middle of said creek to the place of beginning."

When the county of Ocean was erected (by act of February 15, 1850), it was made to comprise the five townships of Stafford, Jackson, Plumsted, Union and Dover, and the new township of Brick, erected by the act. Afterwards it was discovered that a mistake had been made in the description of the boundary; and to correct this, an act was passed, in the year 1851, reciting that by the establishment of the Freehold and Mount Holly road as a part of the county line between Monmouth and Ocean, in the erection of the latter county, a portion of Jackson township lying north of that road was left not included in any county, and declaring that "all that part of the township of Jackson lying north of the road leading from Freehold to Mount Holly is set off and annexed to the township of Upper Freehold." Finally, in 1869, an act was passed by the Legislature annexing "all that part of the township of Plumstead, in the county of Ocean, lying north of the middle of the Monmouth and Mount Holly road," to the township of Upper Freehold, and establishing the county boundary between Ocean and Monmouth as it is at the present time.

The following is a list (as nearly complete as it is practicable to make it) of chosen freeholders of Upper Freehold township from 1788 to the present time. The names of the freeholders in the county are found in the records, but they are not given by townships until about 1800. The list obtained is as follows:

- 1788. Peter Imley, Robert Montgomery.
- 1789. Robert Montgomery.
- 1790-97. James R. English.
- 1791. John Imley.
- 1795. Dr. William Imley.
- 1798. William E. Imley.
- 1801-18. Garret P. Wikoff.
- 1801-4. Job Holms.
- 1805-10. Caleb Ivins.
- 1823. William Imley.
- 1830-55. James S. Laurence.
- 1839-46. Thomas Miller.
- 1846-50. Edmund T. Hendrickson.
- 1856-60. Bennington Gill.
- 1861-62. Albert A. Taylor.
- 1863-73. Collin B. Mairs.
- 1874-76. William N. Bryan.
- 1877-79. Charles S. Bullock.
- 1880-84. Lewis F. Gordon.



The names of the taxable inhabitants of Upper Freehold one hundred and fifty-four years ago are ascertained from an assessment roll of the township (still in existence) dated April 1, 1731, and signed by John Lawrence,<sup>1</sup> then township assessor. The document is headed "A Tax For raising Money By order of y<sup>e</sup> Justices & Freeholders, for Building A Cort house In y<sup>e</sup> County of Monmouth",—the court-house built in 1715 having been destroyed by fire in December, 1727. The list referred to is as follows:

NAME.	ACRES.
Aaron Robins	180
Benjamin Lawrence	950
Benjamin Borden	275
Cornelius Vanhorn	130
Charles Macklain	
David Johnston	200
David Parker	125
David Harker	
Daniel Estell	
Elisha Lawrence	360
Edward Hurley	100
Elias Holman	100
Ebenezer Saltar	320
Elias Stillwell	25
Gavin Watson	300
George Molat	250
Guisbert Guisebertson	100
Henry Clothier	1
Henry Everingham	80
Isaac Stelle, Esq.	150
John Lawrence, Sen.	300
John Stillwell	145
Joseph Cox	380
Joseph Holman	200
Jacob Miller	160
John Vaughn	260
John Guibertson	150
John Williams	100
Joseph Checseman	150
Jonathan Robins	100
John Cox	157
James Cox	275
James Cox, Jr.	300
John Cox, Jr.	100
James Lowry	318
John Coward	430
John King	450
Joseph Woodward	250
Joseph Keney	250

NAME.	ACRES
Joseph Mysis	100
John Rumford	100
Jacob Robins	250
Jonah Steward	290
John Brown	300
John Dennis	240
James Pillyon	200
Thomas Williams	300
Umphrey Wall	100
William Andrews	200
William Montgomery	250
William Hughs	250
William Norton	200
William Saxton	200
William Colwell	200
William Woodward	130
William Imlay	50
William Cannon	106
William Wilkins	300
William Wilkins, Jr.	100
William B——	150
William Limming	130
William Evillman	150
William Devoll	
Widow Cox	
Widow Woodward	15
Widow Lawrence	300
Widow Borden	118
Zebulon Clayton	250
Zachariah Robins	100
James Tapscott	100
Isaac Van Cleef	225
Jacob Morris	225
Joseph Cannon	190
John Imlay	200
Joseph Aplin	120
John Fowler	124
John Cox	180
John Limming	270
Joseph Kelley	200
Joseph Holmes	150
James Silver	400
John Nation	20
Joseph Sergeant	100
John Ashton, Esq.	760
Joseph Ashton	400
Jacob Lair	120
John Lawrence	360
Moses Robins, Jr.	200
Marmaduke Horsman	150
Nicholas Stevens	700
Nathaniel Robins	120
Nathan Allen, Esq.	150
Nicholas Hill	100
Ncal Currey	150
Nehemiah Cogall	200
Obadiah Jeroton	
Obadiah Wilkins	

<sup>1</sup>John Lawrence, who was the township assessor of Upper Freehold for many years, was the surveyor-general who, in 1743, ran the line, since known as the "Lawrence Line," between the provinces of East and West Jersey.





NAME.	ACRES.
Peter Van Tilbert . . . . .	12
Philip Truax . . . . .	25
Peter Brower . . . . .	
Richard Salter . . . . .	300
Richard Mount . . . . .	400
Robert Curvat . . . . .	18
Robert Holmes . . . . .	125
Robert Montgomery . . . . .	500
Robert Imlay . . . . .	200
Robert English . . . . .	46
Robert Lawrence . . . . .	375
Richard Compton . . . . .	100
Richard Horsfield . . . . .	250
Richard Compton, Jr. . . . .	50
Samuel Rogers . . . . .	50
Safety Borden . . . . .	170
Samuel Robins . . . . .	
Samuel Horseman . . . . .	
Samuel Wellgoose . . . . .	
Thomas Cox, Jr. . . . .	175
Thomas Kimsey . . . . .	
Thomas Parker . . . . .	125
Thomas Richards . . . . .	200
Thomas Cox, son of James . . . . .	120
Thomas Jones . . . . .	340
Thomas Woodward . . . . .	400
Thomas Doughty . . . . .	170
Thomas Everingham . . . . .	100
Thomas Duglas . . . . .	100
Thomas Hawkins . . . . .	50
Thomas Smyth . . . . .	240

"Following is a List of all the Taxables in the Township of Upper Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, in the province of New Jersey, with the number of acres assessed to each, made in the month of October, 1758:"

NAMES.	ACRES.
Austey, William . . . . .	50
Allen, Anna (widow) . . . . .	10
Anderson, John . . . . .	2
Andrews, John . . . . .	1
Anderson, Abram . . . . .	17
Anderson, Matthias . . . . .	10
Ashton, John . . . . .	200
Allen, Samuel . . . . .	160
Arney, Joseph . . . . .	
Anderson, Elias . . . . .	
Atler, Adam . . . . .	
Blakely, John . . . . .	
Beaks, William . . . . .	190
Beaks, David . . . . .	
Barcaloo, William . . . . .	245
Battinghouse, John . . . . .	
Beers, Benjamin . . . . .	
Britton, Abram . . . . .	200
Britton, Richard . . . . .	150

NAME.	ACRES.
Balling, Joseph . . . . .	150
Bruce, John . . . . .	8
Brewer, Peter . . . . .	80
Baird, David . . . . .	130
Bacon, Jeremiah . . . . .	
Bacon, Nathaniel . . . . .	
Bowman, Nathaniel . . . . .	
Beakes, Edmund . . . . .	
Burtree, Richard . . . . .	290
Bradshaw, John . . . . .	
Brown, Clayton . . . . .	
Bower, William . . . . .	200
Copothite, Hannah . . . . .	200
Coward, Joseph . . . . .	315
Cook, George . . . . .	30
Cowenhoven, Peter, Jr. . . . .	200
Cox, John, Sr. . . . .	200
Cowenhoven, Benjamin . . . . .	300
Cox, John (Lands End) . . . . .	500
Coward, John . . . . .	1200
Coward, John, Jr. . . . .	415
Clap, John . . . . .	
Cunningham, Thomas . . . . .	
Cox, Thomas . . . . .	600
Cox, Thomas, Jr. . . . .	
Cox, John (son of John) . . . . .	222
Cook, Abiall, Jr. . . . .	58
Cook, Nathaniel . . . . .	130
Cox, Thomas Cooper . . . . .	4
Combs, John . . . . .	60
Cox, Mary (widow) . . . . .	170
Cole, George (schoolmaster) . . . . .	
Clap, George . . . . .	
Cox, Joseph . . . . .	150
Cox, Nathaniel . . . . .	29
Cheeseman, Joseph . . . . .	170
Caller, Jacob . . . . .	2
Cook, Abiall . . . . .	97
Clark, Daniel . . . . .	300
Churney, John . . . . .	
Conover, Peter . . . . .	192
Clayland, James . . . . .	
Campbell, Nathaniel . . . . .	
Camott, Robert . . . . .	4
Dewitt, Luke . . . . .	172
Dewitt, Peter . . . . .	60
Dunn, Nicholas . . . . .	1
Devonport, Samuel . . . . .	1
Donford, Samuel . . . . .	250
Dole, Daniel . . . . .	
Debaws, Lawrence . . . . .	131
Delay, Daniel . . . . .	
Dunderfield, William . . . . .	
Eastman, William . . . . .	150
Eastman, John . . . . .	330
Emlay, William . . . . .	117
English, Robert . . . . .	
English, Robert, Jr. . . . .	110



NAME.	ACRES.
English, David . . . . .	110
Everingham, William . . . . .	100
Ebylon, Peter . . . . .	
Eley, John . . . . .	500
Everingham, Joseph . . . . .	15
Eastwood, Abraham . . . . .	150
Forman, Samuel . . . . .	200
Fisher, Henry . . . . .	
Fowler, Benjamin . . . . .	189
Forman, Sarah (widow James Throck- morton) . . . . .	195
Forman, Elizabeth (widow) . . . . .	200
Finnes, John . . . . .	8
Fox, Thomas . . . . .	8
Fenton, John . . . . .	6
Far, Thomas . . . . .	25
Flint, Samuel (Indian) . . . . .	
Gibbons, Jonathan . . . . .	
Gregory, Benjamin . . . . .	
Gregory, Benoni . . . . .	
Groom, Thomas . . . . .	200
Gaston, John (grist-mill and fulling- mill) . . . . .	645
Gibberson, Guisbert . . . . .	300
Grover, Joseph . . . . .	420
Gibberson, John . . . . .	10
Gordon, James . . . . .	
Grady, Daniel . . . . .	
Gordon, David . . . . .	15
Herbert, John . . . . .	330
Herbert, Thomas, Jr . . . . .	
Herbert, Obadiah . . . . .	
Herbert, Richard . . . . .	
Henderson, William . . . . .	180
Henderson, Guisbert . . . . .	60
Hurley, Edward . . . . .	33
Horner, Benjamin, Sr . . . . .	
Horner, Content . . . . .	
Hopkins, Joseph . . . . .	150
Humphrey, Joseph . . . . .	16
Hull, Rague . . . . .	
Holmes, Joseph . . . . .	945
Holmes, James, Esq . . . . .	700
Harrison, John & Thomas . . . . .	309
Horner, Joshua (grist-mill and saw- mill) . . . . .	150
Hutchinson, Robert . . . . .	500
Holman, Robert . . . . .	250
Holman, Aaron . . . . .	80
Huggins, John . . . . .	7
Horsfield, John . . . . .	680
Horn, Frederick . . . . .	
Horn, Nathaniel . . . . .	
Hartner, John . . . . .	
Hews, William . . . . .	
Horner, Benjamin, Jr . . . . .	15
Harmion, Christian . . . . .	
Hutchinson, William . . . . .	150

NAME.	ACRES.
Hillson, John . . . . .	
Imlay, Alice (widow) . . . . .	
Johnston, David . . . . .	
James, Richard . . . . .	200
Imlay, Peter . . . . .	380
Imley, Peter (grist-mill) . . . . .	175
Jackson, Amor . . . . .	250
Imley, William . . . . .	150
Jackson, James . . . . .	217
Jackson, Mary (widow) . . . . .	
Jarvis, Francis . . . . .	40
Johnston, Amos . . . . .	103
Johnston, John . . . . .	
Jobs, John . . . . .	10
Kelly, Joseph . . . . .	200
Kernan, William . . . . .	
Kelly, Michael . . . . .	
Lawrence, John (chair) . . . . .	360
Lippincott, David . . . . .	200
Lippincott, David, Jr . . . . .	
Lawrence, James . . . . .	460
Lawrence, Elisha (chaise) . . . . .	365
Lawrence, Robert, Esq . . . . .	796
Leonard, John . . . . .	330
Lawrence, Joseph . . . . .	360
Lawrie, William . . . . .	490
Lawrie, Thomas (merchant and chair) . . . . .	300
Longstreet, Stoffel (two grist-mills) . . . . .	238
Limming, John, Jr . . . . .	115
Limming, Thomas . . . . .	100
Limming, Daniel . . . . .	100
Limming, Dinah . . . . .	115
Limming, William . . . . .	100
Lawrence, William . . . . .	
Limming, Diwilde . . . . .	75
Lawrence, Mary . . . . .	300
Lippincott, Obadiah . . . . .	
Luke, William . . . . .	
Limming, John (son of William) . . . . .	60
Lloyd, Richard . . . . .	125
Langley, David . . . . .	50
Lawrence, Benjamin . . . . .	
Merry, John . . . . .	
McGallard, Andrew . . . . .	10
McDonald, Michael . . . . .	
More, Peter . . . . .	
Mingan, Joseph . . . . .	
Montgomery, Robert, Jr . . . . .	
Mairs, Christopher . . . . .	2
More, John . . . . .	30
Mount, Michael . . . . .	200
Mount, Thomas . . . . .	198
Mount, Ezekiel . . . . .	
Montgomery, James . . . . .	270
Morris, Jacob . . . . .	3
Montgomerie, William . . . . .	250
Montgomerie, Robert, Esq . . . . .	850
McNight, Charles, Rev. . . . .	200





NAME.	ACRES.
Mull, Michael . . . . .	
Middleton, Amos . . . . .	183
McConnelly, Neal . . . . .	
Morris, Christopher . . . . .	50
Mount, Richard . . . . .	690
Mannering, Patrick . . . . .	11
Meghee, James . . . . .	9
McColm, Hugh . . . . .	270
Montgomerie, James, Jr. . . . .	
Mitchell, Alexander . . . . .	
Miller, Thomas . . . . .	115
Newell, James D. (chair) . . . . .	3
Parent, John . . . . .	
Parker, William . . . . .	
Polhemius, John (grist-mill) . . . . .	9
Polhemius, Tobias . . . . .	200
Peiree, Andrew . . . . .	
Priece, Isaac (fulling-mill) . . . . .	2
Page, Joseph . . . . .	
Parent, Thomas . . . . .	
Parent, William . . . . .	
Patrie, Hendrick . . . . .	
Phelps, Ezekiel . . . . .	
Patriek, Negro . . . . .	
Robins, Richard . . . . .	330
Radford, William . . . . .	
Rogers, William . . . . .	
Robins, Elizabeth (widow) . . . . .	50
Robins, Moses . . . . .	53
Robins, Samuel . . . . .	180
Robins, Ephraim . . . . .	11
Robins, Daniel A. (town) . . . . .	3½
Robins, Daniel . . . . .	300
Roe, John . . . . .	
Rogers, Isaac (merchant and chair) . . . . .	60
Robins, John . . . . .	19
Robins, Joseph (small still) . . . . .	400
Robins, Thomas . . . . .	
Robins, Moses, Jr. . . . .	100
Robins, Jacob . . . . .	100
Robins, Joseph, Jr. . . . .	
Read, John and Richard . . . . .	275
Randall, Daniel . . . . .	
Randall, James . . . . .	
Read, John . . . . .	107
Robbs, Thomas . . . . .	
Shattig, Christopher . . . . .	
Smith, Thomas . . . . .	250
Smith, John . . . . .	
Saxton, James . . . . .	200
Saxton, Peter . . . . .	104
Saxton, Daniel . . . . .	203
Starkey, David . . . . .	50
Stewart, Robert . . . . .	120
Smith, Jacob . . . . .	
Still, Jacob . . . . .	½
Stillwell, William . . . . .	9
Stinyond, Joseph . . . . .	340

NAME.	ACRES.
Stevens, John . . . . .	700
Stewart, Alexander . . . . .	
Stillwell, Richard . . . . .	
Stell, Benjamin . . . . .	100
Swen, John . . . . .	
Smith, Joseph . . . . .	3
Samson, John . . . . .	
Story, Thomas . . . . .	
Sullivan, Dennis . . . . .	
Smith, Corbert . . . . .	30
Saxton, Charles . . . . .	236
Sepp, a negro . . . . .	
Tive, Thomas . . . . .	
Tilton, Abraham . . . . .	50
Thomas, Jonathau (two grist-mills and a fulling-mill) . . . . .	173
Tule, David . . . . .	
Tapseott, William . . . . .	410
Taylor, Joseph . . . . .	170
Taylor, Hannah (widow) . . . . .	200
Taylor, Thomas . . . . .	330
Trout, John . . . . .	130
Tiffert, Robert . . . . .	150
Vanee, Patrick . . . . .	
Vorhes, John . . . . .	144
Vaughn, David . . . . .	
Vaughn, Rachel (widow) . . . . .	200
Vaughu, Joseph . . . . .	30
Vaughn, William . . . . .	365
Vanhorn, Matthias (grist-mill) . . . . .	160
Williams, Daniel . . . . .	½
White, Samuel . . . . .	384
Wortman, John . . . . .	
Warrick, John . . . . .	66
Wright, Joseph . . . . .	1½
Woodward, Thomas, Esq. . . . .	500
Woodward, William . . . . .	470
Woodward, Joseph . . . . .	200
Woodward, John . . . . .	
Woodward, Jesse . . . . .	
Wetheral, John . . . . .	250
Wild, Robert . . . . .	40
West, John . . . . .	
Wilgus, John . . . . .	
Wilgus, Samuel . . . . .	
Watson, Gawu . . . . .	300
Watson, Peter . . . . .	550
Woodward, Joseph, Jr. . . . .	300
Wall, Humphrey . . . . .	105
Welsh, William (schoolmaster) . . . . .	
Wilkey, William . . . . .	
Yard, William H. . . . .	

"For the year of our Lord 1758. The Assessment as made by John Lawrence, Assessor.

"N. B.—We have no Water Craft, nor furnaces, nor forges, nor Bloomeries, nor glass-houses, nor Stills that still Molasses, nor ferries, nor Brew-houses, nor

1. The first of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
2. The second of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
3. The third of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
4. The fourth of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
5. The fifth of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
6. The sixth of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
7. The seventh of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
8. The eighth of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
9. The ninth of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	
10. The tenth of these is the fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, which has resulted in the establishment of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, a new department of the Federal Government, which is charged with the responsibility of seeing that the food and drugs which are sold in this country are safe and effective.	

Couches, Chariots, nor Chaises & 4-wheels in upper freehold."

The number of acres assessed in the township in 1758 was 38,954 $\frac{1}{2}$ , of which the assessed valuation was £11,501 10s. Tax raised, £391 14s.

Much of the territory of Upper Freehold was taken up and patented in large tracts. One of these tracts (four thousand acres) was held by Robert Burnet, one of the proprietors. In 1706 he sold to Nathan Allen, his son-in-law, five hundred and twenty acres, starting where the Cafferty Mill now stands, at Allentown, and running down the stream to the land then held by John Chambers. In the same year he sold to William Montgomery, another son-in-law, five hundred acres, beginning on Doctor's Creek, near the post road, and thence to the line of Negro Run. This tract was soon after enlarged and named Eglinton. It has remained in the family for six generations. Mrs. Bennington Gill, of the fifth generation, now resides on the old homestead.

On the 24th of May, 1690, John Baker patented two thousand one hundred acres of land intended to be called the "Manor of Buckhole." This tract was bounded on the west by the four thousand acre tract of Robert Burnett (near the line of the Pemberton and Hightstown Railroad), north by Cat Tail Brook, south of Doctor's Creek "to the Middletown Men's Lots." John Baker died some time before 1700, and the tract passed to George Willocks and soon after to Richard Salter, who built the mills at Imlaystown before 1700. A portion of this tract was sold, in 1727, by Richard Salter, Jr., to Peter Salter, Jr., it being the "mill tract." Another portion was sold about 1717, to Elisha Lawrence, who settled there. The family of Lawrence figured largely in this county for many years. Elisha Lawrence was the son of William Lawrence, who, in 1668 was one of the proprietors of the Middletown lots. He was town clerk of Middletown. His name occurs frequently in the records of that township. He was one of the Manasquan company who located lots on the coast from Wreck Pond to Barnegat Bay, in 1685. He also owned land at Wakake, adjoining Richard Hartshorne. He died in 1702 and left sons—William, Joseph,

Elisha, John, James and Benjamin—and several daughters. The property on Wakake Creek and vicinity was sold or given to Elisha who in November, 1717, sold two hundred and eighty acres to Thomas Kearney and moved to Upper Freehold, where he purchased the property mentioned. A part of this tract he named Chestnut Grove, now owned by Harrison Hendrickson. He died in 1724, aged fifty-eight years. He represented the county in the Provincial Assembly in 1708-9. He married Lucy Stout, of Shrewsbury, and had several children, of whom John Lawrence, who ran the East and West Jersey line in 1743, was one. He resided on part of the tract of his father, which was called Mulberry Hill, now owned by George J. Hendrickson. His son John was a physician; the same Dr. John Lawrence whose house was protected in the Revolution by the British, at the request of Richard Wain, at whose house the officers were stopping. He was born in 1747, graduated at Princeton College and studied medicine at Philadelphia Medical College, and became eminent as a physician in Upper Freehold. He was a Tory and joined the British. His property was confiscated, but he lived and practiced in the county unmolested after the war, and died at Trenton April 29, 1830. His brother, Elisha Lawrence, was sheriff of Monmouth County during the Revolution. His son, John Brown Lawrence, was the father of Commodore Lawrence, of the United States navy, and grandfather of Commodore Boggs, who, in the "Varuna," passed the forts below New Orleans during the late Rebellion. Of the brothers of Elisha, William settled in Middletown; John, James and Joseph bought the "Squan Lots," on Manasquan River, and settled there. Of Benjamin no account is obtained. The tract of land of two thousand five hundred acres, bounded by the Keith line on the west, and on all other sides by Crosswicks Creek, was patented by William Doekwra, February 2, 1698, and was, later, sold to Anthony Woodward for three hundred and eighty pounds.

Robert West, of London, patented fifteen hundred acres south of Burlington Path and east of Crosswicks Creek, January 22, 1689. John Smith, of Middletown, patented a tract





between Robert West and John Throckmorton. Peter Sonmans patented fifteen hundred acres lying east of Crosswicks Creek and north of Burlington Path.

Between the years 1688 and 1695 a strip of land reaching nearly across the county was taken by men from Middletown, and is known as "Middletown Men's Lots." It reaches from the fifteen hundred acre tract of Peter Sonmans, along the northwest side of Burlington Path, to the Pines, and was divided as follows: Joseph Throckmorton, four hundred and eighty acres; James Bowne, four hundred and eighty acres; James Ashton, four hundred and eighty acres; Philip Smith, four hundred and eighty acres; John Stout, three hundred acres; Benjamin Borden, two hundred and forty acres; Job Throckmorton, two hundred and seventy-four acres. The tract below the path contained four hundred and eighty acres, and belonged to John Throckmorton. It extended southerly to Lahaway Creek.

The Lahaway Creek furnished several good mill-sites, at what is now Walnford and the Waln Mills. A tract of land, partly of the Dockwra tract and part of the Peter Sonmans, was purchased and a grist-mill erected. In 1760 it was in possession of Abram Brown, who, on the 5th of October, 1772, conveyed it to Richard Waln, who had loaned money upon the property. He was a descendant of Nicholas Waln, who came over with William Penn, and a brother of Nicholas Waln, of Philadelphia. He moved to the place, and during the Revolution built the present large and commodious mansion-house, which is still in as good condition as when the British officers were entertained within its walls. Before 1800, Mr. Waln sent flour from this mill to Philadelphia, in scows, down Crosswicks Creek. A bridge now spans the stream within a stone's throw of the mill, the site of which is historic. It is near the "Province Line" and near the "Burlington Path." With reference to this bridge, there was published, some years since, an article from which the following is extracted:

"A body of the American forces, in retreat, probably from Bordentown, destroyed the old bridge. The English troops were in hot pur-

suit, and the object was to discommodate and impede their advance. The enemy with great celerity threw over a bridge a little distance up the stream, just above the head of the dam. Said an old lady of the Waln family, detailing to her household what her own eyes had seen: 'I never saw the like. The soldiers cut down big trees, trimmed them, and then brought each tree on porters (*i.e.*, short sticks, passed under). There was a long row of soldiers on each side of a tree; they carried it along as if the tree weighed nothing. And some went back for another. There were so many men, that as fast as one tree was brought another came close behind it, and so the bridge went up, and the troops crossed over.' The officer in command went to the house, where dinner was just ready. Its chief dish was souse. The officer sat down, his guards standing near, while the family refrained from eating, but gave attention to the officer's wants. He ate heartily, and at the close of the meal a large pile of bones lay by his plate. Seeming ashamed, as if he had over-eaten, he swept them to the door, and withdrew. There was a sort of refinement in the officer's conduct, as though he would like to acknowledge the attention he had received. The body marched on, and not the least annoyance was allowed." The officer referred to by the lady, is supposed to have been General Knyphausen, and the occasion, the advance of the British army to Monmouth Court-House, in June, 1778.

Richard Waln favored the British cause and his property was protected. One of the officers while here lost his spur, which was found a few years ago by a workman while digging near the stream. Nicholas Waln, one of the older sons, took charge of the mill about 1795, and continued it till his death, in April, 1848. His father died in 1809. In the division of the property, the mill was apportioned to Sarah Waln (Mrs. Jacob Hendrickson), who now owns the mill and occupies the mansion. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1821 and rebuilt the same size as the present mill, which was built in 1872.

On Lahaway Creek, near its junction with Crosswicks Creek, is the farm of John G. Meirs, which in the time of the Revolution, was occupied by the noted Torv. Thomas Leonard,



who was denounced by the Freehold Committee of Vigilance, and who subsequently escaped to New York. At the close of the Revolution, when New York was evacuated by the British, Leonard went to St. John's, New Brunswick, where he settled.

In 1870 the frame of an old barn on the Leonard (Meirs) farm was moved, to be rebuilt as a part of some of the out-houses. The removal, and some facts in reference to the old buildings at this place, was noticed in the *Monmouth Democrat* of that time as follows: "On tearing off the well-nigh worn-out siding the date of the building was found cut into the sill-beam—1777. It is surprising how those ancients built for time. The timbers are of white oak, and each one easily squares a foot. The siding was of the best white cedar and an inch thick. The building never had a coat of paint or lime, and yet, until quite recently, its siding was proof against the weather, but it was worn very thin; while the timbers were every one as sound as the day they were felled in those primitive woods. Last year the same gentleman [Mr. Meirs] moved and fixed up for a tool-house a singular little structure known as the 'hip-roof house.' It had a roof of that quaint old style, thus named. This queer little house was inhabited before the Revolution. Still its timbers are all sound, a part of the flooring is there, and the old shingled roof is yet rain and storm-proof. In the Revolution it was owned by a Tory named Leonard, who lived in it with his wife. He must have been a troublesome fellow, for the place is now pointed out where a party of Whigs, or Continentals, were concealed in watch for the traitor. They must have known that he was in the house; so a raid was made for his immediate capture. The wife saw them coming, and as there was no possibility of escape from the dwelling, she made him flee to the cubby-hole at one end of the peak of the hip-roof. The entrance was so small that the man had to strip off his clothing before he could squeeze into the poke-hole. The pursuers were now at the door. Carrying her husband's clothes in her arms, the woman ran downstairs, put them on the seat of the chair and sat on them. At this moment the door was forced

open. The demand was made, 'Where is your husband?' But the woman gave no sign; not moving from her seat and keeping her countenance imperturbable. The men began at once a search of the house, but all in vain. Puzzled and baffled, they left, without having caused the woman to stir from her seat. The effect was that Leonard received a thorough scare, and concluded it to be no longer safe for him to remain at home. But how to escape, when so determined a hunt was kept up for his life? He was evidently a man of some shrewdness, and was equal to the emergency. Having blackened his face, he changed clothes with his old lame negro slave, and actually passed the party that had surrounded his house the day before, not one of them for a moment suspecting that the old black fellow that was limping by was old Leonard, the Tory himself. He got away safe to Nova Scotia, and never came back again. After the Revolution his property was confiscated and sold at a very low figure. It was afterwards bought by General Forman, and about 1833 it came into the possession of the present family of Meirs.

"There is now standing on the farm, at a considerable distance from the house, an old walnut-tree. A tradition has long existed to the effect that near this tree was the residence of the father of the Loyalist, and that this one, the elder Leonard, when walking in his garden, was shot by an Indian, concealed behind some gooseberry bushes. As no vestige of any residence or garden had been seen for many years, unless the old walnut-tree may date back to that time, the present occupant, Mr. John G. Meirs, placed no confidence in the story. Still, the story was long told in all sincerity. About a year ago Mr. Meirs set a man to dig a trench not far from the tree, to drain the land. The digger turned up an old-fashioned silver spoon, on which was engraved the initial L. This, with good reason, Mr. Meirs believed to have belonged to the father of the Loyalist, who was killed near that spot."

ALLENTOWN,<sup>1</sup> situated in the northwest cor-

<sup>1</sup> Many of the historical facts having reference to the township of Upper Freehold, and particularly to the vil-





ner of the township, on Doctor's Creek, is the principal village of Upper Freehold. The first settler at this place was Nathan Allen, a son of Jedediah Allen,<sup>1</sup> of Shrewsbury, and one of a large family of children. In 1706 he purchased of Robert Burnet, one of the proprietors of New Jersey, five hundred and twenty-eight acres of land lying on the north side of Indian Run, in what is now Washington township, Mercer County; and at the same time he purchased one hundred and ten acres on Doctor's Creek and on both sides of the York road. In the same year he settled and built a grist-mill at the same place which became the village of Allentown. In the previous year he had married Margery, daughter of the proprietor, Robert Burnet, from whom he had made his purchase of land. She was living in 1716, but died previous to 1721, and in that year he married Martha, widow of Francis Davenport (2), whose maiden-name was Martha Newbury. By her he had two sons, Nathan and Benjamin, and two daughters, Martha and Margery. He died in 1837 and his widow, Martha, afterwards married — De Bow.

Nathan, (2d), son of Nathan and Martha Allen, married Sarah Lawrence. He inherited from his father the grist-mill and plantation at Allentown, while his brother Benjamin inherited the fulling-mill with two and a half acres, part of the same property. He died in 1718, leaving one son, Nathan John Allen, and in 1750 his executors sold the mill property, two hundred and thirty-eight acres, to Stoffel Longstreet, "late of Shrewsbury," etc. His widow,

late of Allentown, were furnished to the writer by Charles R. Hutchinson, of Allentown. Much valuable information concerning the history of Allentown has also been furnished by John C. Vanderbeck, and Mrs. Mary A. Fiske.

<sup>1</sup> Jedediah Allen emigrated from New England to Shrewsbury previous to 1692; was a justice of the court there in 1700 and 1701. Will dated September 15, 1711, proven February 6, 1711; wife Elizabeth; sons,—Ephraim, who married a daughter of William West, of Shrewsbury; Elisha; Nathan, of whom hereafter; Judah, who married Deborah Adams, and died in 1721; Ralph; Henry; Jonathan, David. Daughters,—Esther, who married James Adams; Mary, who married — Wills; Patience, who married Samuel Tilton; and Meribah, who married William Thorn.

Sarah, afterwards married Thomas Lawrie, an old-time merchant of Allentown.

Benjamin, son of Nathan (1st) and Martha, in 1748, sold the fulling-mill to Isaac Price, who owned it until his death, in 1768. In 1771 it again became a part of the grist-mill property. It long since ceased to be used for its original purpose, and when the present grist-mill was erected upon its site, was removed, and is now a double dwelling-house on the westerly side of the bridge.

The mill property, since the time of its sale to Stoffel Longstreet, has been in possession of the following-named persons, viz.: James English, Jr., purchased May 1, 1761; John Rhea (a Philadelphia merchant), June 1, 1767; Robert Rhea, of Allentown, August 12, 1774; Joseph Haight, November 4, 1776; Arthur Donaldson, March 12, 1779; Peter Imlay, March 2, 1781; Robert Pidgeon, January 22, 1788; John Imlay, November 14, 1792; Robert Evilman, December 29, 1792; Aaron and George Stewart, 1796. George soon after sold to Aaron, whose heirs (April 1, 1835) sold to Richard Brewer, who conveyed the property April 2, 1845, to Abel Cafferty, who now owns it. In 1852 Mr. Cafferty built the present brick mill, forty by fifty feet, three stories high.

Around Nathan Allen's grist-mill there were soon clustered a store, tavern, blacksmith-shop and other kinds of business. It is certain that the place had taken the name Allentown before 1732. In that year Nathan Allen and Lewis Carree died. The latter, in his will, is mentioned as Lewis Carree, of Allentown, merchant. His executors were authorized to sell his lands, by virtue of which his widow, Margaret<sup>2</sup> (who later became the wife of Gabriel Stelle), conveyed a lot of land in Allentown to Elisha Lawrence for one hundred and twenty pounds, lying on the north side of the main street, and extending from the Baptist Church to, or near to, the line of Church Street. His store was doubtless on this lot. About 1730 the Episcopal Church was erected, and in 1756 the Presbyterian (brick) Church was built. Dr. James Newell came to the place about 1770 and

<sup>2</sup> Daughter of Thomas Gordon, surveyor-general.



practiced till after 1812. He lived on the site of the Baptist Church. Dr. Edward Taylor studied medicine with him about 1782. For a more full account of Dr. Taylor the reader is referred to the Medical Society chapter of this history.

Of the other early business interests of the village, but little has been learned. John Imlay removed to the place before 1790. Whether he was in business here before engaging in the shipping business in Philadelphia is not known. In 1790 he built an elegant residence that still stands in good condition on Main Street. His son William engaged in the hardware business in the village and also was postmaster for many years. The parlor and other rooms in the old Imlay mansion were papered with French paper, which now remains on the walls. It is as elegant in design as any modern papers. It was made in sheets of about two feet square. Mrs. Mary A. Fiske, a granddaughter of John Imlay, has framed the bill for the wall-paper, dated 1794, which she found among her grandfather's papers.

Robert Debow, about 1805, erected the old brick store building that still stands on the south side of Main Street. This he occupied many years, and was succeeded by David McKean, who later moved to a building farther up the street.

Samuel Rogers, who, in 1798, was appointed postmaster, was captain of a militia company in 1807, and on July 27th of that year offered the services of his company to the government for the war that was then expected to result from the "Chesapeake" outrage.

Allentown has the honor of being the first town in this State in the forming of a temperance society. In 1805 the "Allentown Temperance Sober Society" was organized with fifty-eight members. But little more is known of this society except that it kept its existence for several years.

Some idea may be formed of the active business of the village in 1818 by the history of the Perseverance Fire Company, which was organized in Allentown, with fifty-one members, on the 23d of November, in that year. A number of inhabitants met at the house of

William Arnd, for the purpose of forming a fire company. A constitution was drawn up and adopted. Each member was to provide himself with a fire-bucket. The following are the names of the original members:

D. McKean,	R. M. Stout,
Robert De Bow,	Graham Newell,
William Imlay,	John Vanhorn,
Joseph Robbins,	James Cox,
Samuel Savidge,	Gabriel Allen,
Michael Forman,	Samuel C. Sprague,
William Foster,	Samuel Newell,
Peter I. Wyckoff,	John Bunting,
Lewis S. James,	George Ford,
George Sinclair,	James Clutch,
Nathaniel Britton,	Charles Ford,
Edmond Tilton,	Cornelius Vanderbeek,
R. D. L. Beatty,	Richard Bruere,
John Clutch,	Lewis Steward,
George W. Taylor,	Gilbert Voorhes,
Eseck Robbins,	Charles Beatty,
William Sinclair,	Joseph Lawyer,
Samuel Cafferty,	Jacob Ford,
David Hays,	John Rogers,
James Imlay,	William Butcher,
John Palmer,	Charles H. Britton,
John Chamberlain,	Isaac Rogers,
Samuel Rogers,	John Robbins,
Silas Dunsmore,	J. Beatty,
Garret Wikoff,	J. B. Beatty.

At that time William Arnd kept the hotel where the meeting was held (now the Union). His name is mentioned in the first business meeting, but does not appear on the original list. Ladders, fire-hooks and hand-engine, manufactured in Philadelphia, were purchased, and at a special meeting, held November 28th, five days after organization, a plan for an engine-house was presented and approved. The house was built, and still stands on the south side of Main Street. The original engine is still in possession of the company, and is kept in the house. The company has maintained its existence to the present, but is in feeble condition having but ten members. The first officers were David Hays, president; Richard L. Beatty, vice-president; David McKean, treasurer; and Peter I. Wikoff, secretary. The presidents from that time to the present have been as follows: John Clutch, 1820; David McKean, 1822; Garret P. Wikoff, 1823; William Imlay, 1837; George Sinclair, 1841; Richard L. Beatty, 1845; Cor-





nelius Vanderbeck, 1847; William Imlay, 1852; George Sinclair, 1858; John H. Rulon, 1863; Henry H. Mayers, 1875. The last named was president until the death, in 1883. The company is at present without a president. A new constitution was adopted in 1829. Allentown in 1833 is thus described by Gordon's "Gazetteer:"<sup>1</sup> "It contains from seventy-five to eighty dwellings, one Presbyterian Church with cupola and bell, handsomely situated on the hill on the west, an Academy, two schools, one Methodist Church, grist-mill, saw-mill and tilt-mill, on Doctor's Creek, and a saw-mill on Indian Run, below which, at a short distance west of the town, is a cotton manufactory."

The above shows quite clearly the condition of Allentown at that time. The old Episcopal Church had been torn down; the academy was still in use; the two schools were private, as elsewhere mentioned; the grist and saw-mill were then owned by the heirs of Aaron Steward. Of the "tilt-mill" nothing certain has been ascertained. The history of the cotton-factory is given below. A tavern and post-office were also here at that time.

William Arnd was succeeded in the tavern by Samuel Forman, whose widow, Rebecca, succeeded after his death and kept it until about 1835, when her son-in-law, John Hendrickson, became the landlord. Later, Barzillai Johnson kept it, and in 1865 the present proprietor, William D. Konover, came into possession. Gabriel Allen, Aaron Allen, David Holloway, Nicholas Bird, George Newell and others have kept taverns in Allentown at different times.

Allentown has had remarkable honors in its representation in State and national offices. The first chief justice of the State of New Jersey was David Brearly, who was a native and resident of Allentown. He served as chief justice from 1782 to 1790. James H. Imlay served in Congress four years; Samuel Cox, four years; Dr. George Holcombe, twelve years; Dr. William A. Newell, six years; and George Middleton, two years. Dr. William A. Newell was

also Governor of the State, and afterwards Governor of Washington Territory.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Allentown is one of the most ancient in the county. The old parish of Christ Church was organized under the auspices of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts about the year 1730, and subsequently was served by several missionaries. The church building was erected at that time. The church records were lost during the Revolution and the congregation was much scattered. Afterwards the few who remained were scarcely able to maintain the regular services. The church building had been used as a stable and somewhat injured by shot. The old Bible and prayer-book that were used prior to the Revolution are still sacredly kept by the present congregation. After peace was declared the Rev. Mr. Frazer, rector of St. Michael's Church, Trenton, officiated once a month; also Rev. Mr. Waddell, who succeeded him. From time to time only infrequent supplies could be obtained. A short time previous to 1810 the church building was taken down, as was reported in the "Journal of Convention" of that year, "in a ruinous state," after which only occasional services were held for the benefit of the remnant of the congregation in the churches and rooms kindly offered by the Presbyterians and Methodists.

In 1845, after a period of thirty-five years without a church building, and with naught remaining to tell of the existence of the former one, save the old graveyard, steps were taken by a few individuals to erect a small and inexpensive church, in which, for a period of fifteen years, occasional services were held by the rectors of Trenton, Princeton and Bordentown Churches. In 1860, the Rev. E. A. Fogg became rector, officiating also as missionary at Hightstown and Crosswicks. He was succeeded, in 1861, by Rev. Mr. Carroll, whose rectorship continued over eight years. In 1869 the small church building in Allentown was superseded by a larger and more commodious edifice, in which have officiated successively the Revs. Bawn, Isaac, Du Bois, Mortimer A. Hyde and W. E. Daw, who is now the rector, and also in charge of the churches at Hightstown and Crosswicks.

<sup>1</sup>The "Gazetteer" was published in 1834, on data gathered in the previous year.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Allentown and vicinity has a history, which is here given in very nearly the exact words used by the present pastor, the Rev. George Swain, in a historical discourse delivered June 20, 1876.

It is to Nathan Allen, a sturdy pioneer, and no doubt staunch Quaker, who built a grist-mill and his house hard by, that we owe the name of our town. Thus founded, we may suppose that the village and vicinity contained in the first years, few besides those of the Society of Friends. Scotch, no doubt, some of them were, and also in good circumstances, but they were the followers of George Fox, and had little sympathy with the religion of their country. Agreeing with this, Morgan,<sup>1</sup> who, in 1709, was pastor of the church in Freehold township, speaks of having met with a cold reception as he sought to preach in our region. But though planted and named by those of West Jersey, our neighborhood very soon began to feel the influence of the more diverse population in the eastern province. A Hollandish element was early introduced, coming mainly from the lower part of Monmouth, around Middletown and Shrewsbury. The Presbyterian Scotch, too, from about Freehold, reached out in this direction, and the result was, that by the year 1720 Allentown had a people well mixed as to nationality and religious belief. The Dutch and Scotch, however, being followers of the same Calvinistic faith and practice, and having therefore much in common, were very naturally drawn together, and to them both we trace the rise of the Presbyterian Church in this place.

So numerous had these two coalescing elements become by 1721 that Morgan, above mentioned, writes in cheering strain of the great change hereabouts with respect to Presbyterian ministers. Where before they were scarcely less hated than Papists,—he remarks to Cotton Mather,—now they are regarded with favor. Having preached here himself at intervals for a year or more, he felt the work to be of such promise and importance that he sought

for the growing congregation a stated minister. In 1722, by which time, says Webster, there was a house of worship,—and, we may suppose, a church fairly organized,—Morgan was able to send one Walton, a native of Connecticut and graduate of Yale, to take charge of the Presbyterian interests. His stay, however, was very short, for, proving an erratic genius, whose powerful preaching was accompanied by imprudent and culpable conduct, he was the same year suspended by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. This must have been a hard blow to the struggling, though hopeful, cause. Those in the community strongly enough opposed to what they termed a “hireling ministry,” would scarcely forget to make the most of Walton’s inconsistencies.

From this unfortunate event till the year 1730 Allentown appears to have had no regular preaching. Such supplies as could be obtained from Presbytery were the sole dependence for a period of more than eight years. At the date above mentioned, and in view of an urgent request to the Synod of Philadelphia from this congregation, Eleazar Wales, also from New England, became the settled pastor.

He remained, however, but four years, resigning for the reason, as given to Presbytery, of insufficient support. At the meeting which severed the pastoral connection, September, 1734, one Mr. Ingliss (or English) represented the church. Mr. Wales, we have reason to believe, was a devoted and godly man, and though it seems that he had no marked success in this vicinity, we can well assume that his short ministry was by no means in vain. We read of him afterwards as in warm sympathy with Whitefield and Brainerd, this fact bespeaking for him an earnest spirit and decided evangelical views. He died, says Webster, in 1749.

From 1734 till the erection of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, in 1738, we have nothing definite or special with respect to the church. At the first meeting of this new body, however, to whose care Allentown was transferred, commissioners appeared both from this, and the congregation at Cranbury asking for supplies. One of the representatives was John Chambers, said to have been from Cranbury; but while

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Joseph Morgan, who then lived in what is now Marlborough (then Freehold) township.





no such name appears in the record of that church, we know that one John Chambers owned lands adjoining those of Nathan Allen, in this vicinity. Pursuant to this request, Gilbert Tennent, whom Whitefield called that "son of thunder," was appointed to preach at both places. Similar petitions continued to come up, year after year, showing the want of a settled pastor, but at the same time no disposition to allow the Presbyterian interests to perish. As the result of these, the names of Mr. McCrea and William Tennent are on record as visiting the people and helping on the work.

It was during this state of things that, one came to America who was destined to work great increase to the cause of evangelical religion. This was George Whitefield, who, in November, 1739, landed at Philadelphia to commence preaching at once through the colonies. The way was well prepared for his coming; for not only had his fame reached from over the sea, but a great revival also was already in progress. New England was aroused, and the fire then burning spread to Long Island and likewise to New Jersey.

A great and wide door was thus opened for Whitefield, and he went rapidly over the country preaching with astonishing power. Early in 1740, in company, no doubt, with the Ten-nents, he visited Allentown; and while there is no special note of his success, we may trust that the word spoken did not fail to build up and convert. At any rate, we have cause to believe that by the stimulus thus received, as well as through the revival influence abroad in the land, the church grew in strength, though wanting a regular minister. In the summer of 1741 there appeared before the Presbytery of New Brunswick, Mr. Charles McKnight, asking to be licensed by that body, and his qualifications were such that his license was granted without delay. He soon received offers from Amboy, Baskingridge and Staten Island, none of which he accepted. He continued without a regular charge till 1743, when, at a meeting of Presbytery, August 10th, a call was presented for his pastoral services by the united congregations of Allentown and Cranbury. After hold-

ing the matter in consideration for a year, he concluded to accept the call, and July 10, 1744, was duly installed pastor of the two churches. Rev. William Tennent preached the sermon, and the services were accompanied with fasting and prayer. But Mr. McKnight was no sooner settled than an unhappy contest arose between the two places as to where the pastor should reside. Cranbury at first gained the preference; and accordingly Mr. McKnight removed thither, and, though in the beginning unmarried, kept house.

On the Minutes of Presbytery, October 15, 1744, is the record that Mr. McKnight could not attend with the committee to install Mr. Hunter, because he was absent marrying a wife. He, therefore, did not remain single very long. The dispute between the two churches as to the minister's residence continuing unsettled, it finally became so serious that Presbytery was appealed to for counsel. A committee from this body met with the disputants October 12, 1748, and the business was prefaced by a sermon by William Tennent. They advised that the pastor should remain at Cranbury, and that the people of Allentown obtain a minister of their own as soon as possible. This latter they did; but it was Mr. McKnight himself,—he relinquishing the charge at Cranbury, and moving to Allentown in 1756. After this, he remained ten years,—this his sole charge, save that Bordentown appears to have shared one-fourth of his time, on from 1758. For twenty-three years altogether he had care of the church, when he removed, in 1767, to settle at Middletown Point and Shrewsbury. At the latter place, so obnoxious did he become to the British in the Revolution, that his church was burned and himself taken prisoner. After a tedious and severe confinement, he was released, but only to die from the effects of it. January 1, 1778, he passed away, his body being buried in Trinity Churchyard, New York, where his grave may be seen to this day.

Turning to the record of his ministry here, the first important item is the purchase of ground for a house of worship and graveyard, December 15, 1744. William Lawrence, for the sum of five shillings, conveyed to Robert



Imlay and Tobias Polhemus one acre of land, for the use of the Presbyterian congregation. On this a brick edifice was erected, 1756, a structure which some of the oldest citizens remember well. It served the congregation till 1837. Further, in 1752, a parsonage farm was purchased, and however much it contained at the first, it was five years after increased to more than two hundred and twenty acres. The persons who conveyed it to the trustees were Gysbert Hendrickson, Leaford Leason and Robert English. The temporal matters of the church were thus in prosperous condition, and we have cause to believe (though with no recorded data to draw upon) that spiritually also there was flourishing and growth. Like pastor like people is an old adage with sound basis of truth, and as Mr. McKnight seems to have been a firm, independent and withal a godly man, we may argue that his twenty-three years' pastorate made a deep and lasting impression for good. He no doubt had much from the very beginning to encourage. When he took charge a great wave of revival had just swept over the land, and moreover, he had about him for several years after his settlement that man whose constant prayer it was that he might be a flaming fire in the service of God. We mean David Brainerd, apostle to the Indians of this region. He came from New England, in the summer of 1745, to labor among the red men, still numerous about Crosswicksung. On his way thither he records stopping at Cranbury, and lodging with Mr. McKnight, of whom he speaks as a "serious minister." After this, so long as Brainerd remained in the vicinity, their intercourse was most cordial, and much aid did they render each other as opportunity allowed. All that the pastor could do to commend to Christians at large the missionary's work, pecuniary help when the latter was building the town and church of Bethel, near Cranbury,—a home for the converted Indians,—these he cheerfully gave, reaping much for himself and churches in return.

May 11, 1746, was one occasion on which the earnest apostle assisted in administering the sacrament at Allentown. He states that the word then preached was received with deep feeling and that after the public service he was much refreshed by the conversation of Christian friends.

Upon his removal, the church was again to suffer from a protracted vacancy. For the long period of eight years there was no pastor living among the people; but in 1774 commissioners appeared from Allentown in Presbytery to prosecute a call to the Rev. William Schenck, a native of Monmouth County, and graduate of Princeton Seminary. From records in possession of a branch of his family, it appears that he had preached much for the congregation prior to this date. He had spent fifteen Sabbaths here before 1772. Indeed, from this time he continued a sort of stated supply—with occasional interruptions—till the call was formally made out as above. There is no minute of his installation; but from the fact of his removal to the place and occupation of the parsonage, we may suppose that he was regularly inducted as pastor. He evidently remained till 1778, as there is found a record of baptisms administered by him as late as that year. He removed from Allentown to South Hampton, Pa., and after other changes died at Franklin, Ohio, 1823, at the age of eighty-three. Of the character and success of his pastorate among us we have no record. It appears, however, that he gave part of his time to a station at Imlaystown. He mentions the sum of one pound twelve shillings for labors there.

The Rev. Mr. Schenck having removed about 1778, we find that in the spring of the following year a call was presented from Allentown and Nottingham for the pastoral services of Mr. George Faitoute. Of Nottingham, to which he was to devote one-third of his time, this is the earliest mention, and, however the congregation of this place came into being, it was destined for many years to be, to all intents and purposes, one with Allentown. As long as the connection existed there seems to have been one Session caring for both churches. Mr. Faitoute was pastor but for two years, as the minutes of Presbytery record his dismissal in 1781. Following his removal there was again a protracted vacancy, the church becoming dependent for three years or more on Presbyterianial supplies. These furnished the people with preaching once or twice a month. At length, in the spring of 1784, a call was presented to Mr. Joseph Clark, a grad-







uate of Princeton and a licentiate of the Presbytery of New Brunswick. Of his previous history we have the following: Mr. Clark was born in Elizabethtown, N. J., October 21, 1751. He early felt the power of religion, and, though apprenticed as a carpenter at the age of seventeen, strong was his desire for knowledge, and, if possible, to become a minister. Having bought a Latin grammar, he would often, after the day's toil, sit up nearly all night, conning over it by the light of a pine knot. He thus, by heroic effort, fitted himself for the junior class at Princeton College in two years. His collegiate course was, however, interrupted by the war, during which he served several years as a soldier in the army. At the close of the war he returned to college, and graduated in 1781. Having also studied theology two years, he was, in 1783, licensed to preach the gospel.

He had been sent to Allentown as one of the appointed supplies, and immediately, by his excellent preaching and evident piety, had won the hearts of the people. He did not forthwith accept the call, but requested time for due consideration. We may, perhaps, imagine as the cause of this a precarious condition of health, for it is manifest that in his earlier ministry Mr. Clark was not robust. Meanwhile it was agreed that he preach one year as supply; and having, at the request of the congregation, been ordained as an evangelist, he began his work. Not one, but four years did he thus continue. For this long period he held the call in abeyance, though all the while acting faithfully and fully as the pastor. He remained in this position till the summer of 1788, when, doubtless to the pleasure of the church, he accepted the call and was regularly installed. The celebrated Witherspoon, together with Rev. Messrs. Woodhull, Smith, Armstrong and Morton, were the committee from Presbytery to perform the duty of formal induction. Having been thus regularly settled among the people, Mr. Clark became growingly abundant in labor; he was a workman, earnestly devoted to the work of Christ. His toils were such that they soon told upon his health, and in 1792 he was obliged to ask Presbytery for supplies that he might take a season of rest. He was probably much out of

the pulpit for over a year, but in 1794 he was so far recovered as to require no further aid. For two years longer he remained the diligent pastor of the congregation, and then the First Church of New Brunswick laid their choice upon him. Manifestly the people were reluctant enough to have him go. Commissioner William Ford and Samuel Wykoff, elders, with John Van Emburg and James Imlay, appeared at Presbytery, April 26, 1796, and stated that it must be disastrous to the interests of the church if Mr. Clark be taken away; and he himself showed an excellent spirit in the transaction. He deferred the case to the will of Presbytery, which, at a fall meeting, voted that he ought to accept the call. He complied, and, removing to New Brunswick, there spent the rest of his days, an honored and faithful minister of Christ. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity soon after the change, and was moderator of the General Assembly at its Session in Philadelphia, in the year 1800. In 1813 he died. Tradition states that when Mr. Clark left Allentown, he carried the records of the church, at least those of his own ministry, with him. A fire that soon thereafter destroyed his dwelling consumed the documents, and so perished all written data of the Session and himself.

For four years after Mr. Clark's removal the congregation was destined to be without a pastor. What was the cause of this long interregnum does not appear; perhaps it was difficult to find a fit successor to the noble preacher just gone away. At length, in the year 1800, the choice of the people fell on Mr. John Cornell, at this time a licentiate of the Classis of New Brunswick, of the Reformed Dutch Church. He was a native of Pennsylvania, born at Northampton in 1774; he began his classical studies, in which he excelled, at the famous Log College, Pennsylvania, and studied theology under Livingstone at New Brunswick. He married Maria Frelinghuysen, daughter of General Frederick Frelinghuysen, of Somerset County, a lady of great amiability and eminent piety. She proved an invaluable help to him as long as he lived. Her labors were constant to advance her husband's usefulness, and among a multitude of benefits, Allentown is indebted to her for the first Sabbath-school



within its bounds. Altogether she was a rare model of a minister's wife.

At a meeting of Presbytery, June 3, 1800, Mr. Cornell, having accepted the call to Allentown and Nottingham, arrangements were made for his installation on the 23d of the same month. Pursuant to this, his formal induction took place, Dr. John Woodhull preaching the sermon, and the Rev. Joseph Clark delivering the charge to pastor and people. Of the first nine years of Mr. Cornell's ministry we have no Sessional records, and so are much at a loss to know either the condition of the church or the character of his work for this period of time. By a report to Presbytery, in 1806, the membership seems to have been, in both branches, only sixty-seven. In 1808 there were sixty-nine. The last report, in 1817, gives seventy-five. From all that is written, covering more than ten years, we can learn that only four persons were united with the church, though it must be that the names of some are not recorded. It is stated also that in 1818 the Session resolved to begin prayer-meetings in the congregation; these to be held on the first Monday of each month. In 1820 the pastoral relation was dissolved, and Mr. Cornell went hence to take charge of a flourishing classical school, first at Somerville, and later at Millstone, in Somerset County. At the latter place he died, in the year 1835. He was the father of a large family, the graves of some of whom are beneath the shadow of the church, while those who grew to maturity have proved men and women of eminent qualities. Upon the removal of Mr. Cornell the vacancy was, fortunately, brief, for in the fall of 1820 a call was presented to Mr. Henry Perkins, a graduate of Princeton and licentiate of the Presbytery of New Brunswick. This, without protracted delay, he accepted, and on December 6th of the same year, after well acquitting himself in the necessary trial, was ordained and installed as pastor. Dr. John Woodhull presided at the service; Dr. Samuel Miller preached the sermon; Revs. David Comfort and Eli F. Cooly gave the charges to pastor and people. The union thus formed was to be the longest in the annals of the church, and likewise a most fruitful one. The minutes

of his long forty-three years' pastorate show from beginning to end a steady increase and prosperity. When he began, the communicants here and at Nottingham were a sum total of seventy-five, of whom forty-eight belonged to Allentown. When he closed his labors in 1864, by reason of failing health, the number was two hundred and forty-nine. He had received to the church five hundred and fifty-eight,—an average of fifteen for each year of his ministry.

Looking over the Sessional record for other matters of interest, we find the following to have been elders at the date of his installation. They were David McKean, Robert Vanderbeek, Cornelius Vanderbeck, Ebenezer Smith, Samuel Wikoff, Peter Wikoff, Amos Hutelinson, James Hughes, David Cubberly and Theophilus Forman. In the minutes of 1830 appears a notable resolution. Its purport is that the Session, marking with pain and alarm the spread of intemperance, bind themselves to abstain entirely from the use of spirituous liquors, except as a medicine. 1831 mentions the formation of a missionary society to be governed by Session, its object to promote liberality and extend Christ's kingdom in foreign lands. It had an honorable career, procuring generous contributions, but no record of the society is found after 1846.

The house of worship erected in 1756, and having since that time served the use of the congregation, was now coming to be felt unsuitable, and in 1837 it was resolved to build a new edifice on the same ground. This marked the passing away of a structure about which clustered most hallowed and memory-quickening associations. Its high, closed pulpit, duly equipped with antique sounding-board, had been honored with godly and sainted men. Through four generations of the faithful its almost sky-like roof and walls severely plain had echoed with the teachings of grace, and, at first, with the Psalms of David in the Scottish version. In its straight and high-backed pews, some of them forming a hollow square, had worshiped many of the noblest people of the region. The names of Lawrence, Montgomery, Forman, Polhemus, Wikoff and Inlay were among the earliest who in them worshiped God and made





ready for eternity. But the old house, which some yet remember, must give way to the new, and the latter was speedily in process of erection.

In 1840 the long-existing relation between Nottingham and Allentown was severed. This left all of Mr. Perkins' time to Allentown, which provided scope ample enough for the fullest labor he could perform. In 1842 and thereafter he appears to have been called into conflict with a Mormon invasion. The followers of Joseph Smith, then centered at Nauvoo, Ill., had sent missionaries to this region and also in and beyond the section of Cream Ridge, who were much disturbing the peace and minds of the people. Some two or three had been drawn away from this communion, and the excitement was rising when Mr. Perkins felt constrained to put himself in the breach. His fearless, unflinching conduct is remembered, and the result was a powerful blow against the spread of Smith's obnoxious doctrine.

In 1858 the house of worship was enlarged to its present dimensions to meet the wants of the increased congregation. After this notable ministry, some time before the close of which Mr. Perkins received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Princeton, with the highest love and confidence of the people, expressed in fitting resolutions, he, in 1864, retired from active labor. Immediately upon his retirement steps were taken to secure a successor.

After a few months the congregation resolved to extend a call to the Rev. K. P. Ketcham, then pastor of the church at Tuckerton, this State, and a graduate of Princeton. As the result, he was duly installed pastor in the fall of the same year. About the time of his coming, the southern section of the congregation, living about Cream Ridge, withdrew to establish a church among themselves, and so Allentown became the parent of another and, as it has proven, flourishing congregation. The parsonage farm also was sold by will of the people to Mr. Abel Cafferty, and a parsonage procured within the village. Mr. Ketcham remained some six and a half years, when, in 1871, he accepted a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, N. J.

In the winter following Mr. Ketcham's removal the congregation, by unanimous vote, decided to call as pastor Mr. Lawrence M. Colfelt, then a student in the seminary at Princeton. Having regularly finished his studies, he accepted the invitation, and was installed May 9, 1872. His pastorate was destined to cover less than two years. March 9, 1874, the congregation met, and after expressions of deep regret, resolved to unite with Mr. Colfelt in asking a dissolution of the pastoral relation. He had accepted a call to the venerable and important charge of the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, to which field he carried the warmest wishes of the people for his success. Mr. Colfelt's removal was followed by a vacancy of about six months, when the Rev. George Swain, then over the Gates Avenue Presbyterian Church, of Brooklyn, became pastor of the church at Allentown, and he still continues in that relation.

Following is given a list of pastors, ruling elders and trustees of this church, viz.:

#### *Pastors.*

Eleazar Wales, installed 1730; dismissed September 19, 1734; died 1749.

Charles McKnight, installed July 18, 1744; dismissed October, 1766; died January 1, 1778.

William Schenck, installed 1774; dismissed 1778; died 1823.

George Faitoute, installed 1779; dismissed 1781.

Joseph Clark, installed June, 1788; dismissed April 26, 1796; died 1813.

John Cornell, installed June 23, 1800; dismissed February, 1820; died 1835.

Henry Perkins, D.D., installed December 6, 1820; dismissed April, 1864.

K. P. Ketcham, installed September, 1864; dismissed April, 1871.

Lawrence M. Colfelt, installed June, 1872; dismissed March, 1874.

George Swain, installed November, 1874. Still pastor (November, 1884).

#### *Ruling Elders.*

Mr. Inglis, elected in 1734.

Mr. Chambers, elected in 1744.

Peter Covenhoven, elected in 1784.

Henry Harper, elected in 1784.

John Inlay, elected in 1784.

Samuel Wikoff, elected in 1784.

John Silvers, elected in 1784.

James Jackson, elected in 1793.

Peter Wikoff, elected in 1793.



William Foord, elected in 1809.  
 Jacob Fisher, elected in 1809.  
 Robert Wilson, elected in 1809.  
 Samuel Wikoff, elected in 1809.  
 Aaron Hutchinson, elected in 1809.  
 James Hughes, elected in 1809.  
 Theophilus Forman, elected in 1809.  
 Samuel S. Wikoff, Jr., elected in 1810.  
 David McKean, elected in 1810.  
 Ebenezer Smith, elected in 1817.  
 Robert Vanderbeck, elected in 1817.  
 Cornelius Vanderbeck, elected in 1817.  
 David Cubberly, elected in 1818.  
 George Sinclair, elected in 1827.  
 Christopher Van Nest, elected in 1827.  
 William Imlay, elected in 1832. -  
 Samuel Hutchinson, elected in 1832.  
 John Cubberly, elected in 1832.  
 Samuel W. Croxson, elected in 1846.  
 David M. Cubberly, elected in 1846.  
 A. A. Howell, M.D., elected in 1859.  
 John Robbins, elected in 1864. -  
 Samuel F. Fowler, elected in 1868.  
 Henry R. Taylor, elected in 1868.  
 John G. Vanderbeck, elected in 1871.

#### *Trustees.*

1787.—Henry Harper, Abraham Hendricks, Tobias Hendrickson, James Bruere, John Imlay, Samuel Quay.  
 1793.—James Imlay, Garrett Wikoff, Robert Wilson, Jacob Hendrickson, Abraham Montgomery.  
 1796.—John Van Emburgh and John Painter.  
 1797.—Jacob Hendrickson.  
 1805.—David Hay, Jacob Fisher.  
 1807.—Robert Montgomery.  
 1810.—David McKean, William Blackwell.  
 1814.—Robert Vanderbeck, Ebenezer Smith.  
 1815.—Jeremiah Woolsey, George Holcombe.  
 1816.—Cornelius Vanderbeck.  
 1820.—Price Bruere.  
 1823.—John F. Thompson, William Davis.  
 1831.—Peter H. Wikoff, George Sinclair.  
 1842.—Garrett R. Wikoff, John Bruere.  
 1848.—James J. Conover.—  
 1862.—Albert A. Taylor, Charles Meirs, Benjamin Fowler.  
 1864.—A. A. Howell, George H. Vanderbeck, E. T. Hendrickson.  
 1868.—John J. Beatty.  
 1871.—Charles Bruere, Charles Blake.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Allentown has a history extending back three-fourths of a century. "The first sermon preached in this vicinity (by a Methodist) was delivered by David M. Bartine, father of Rev. D. W. Bartine, of Newark Conference. The sermon

was preached in a dwelling that stood on the ground now occupied by the building of Mr. George Buzby. It was the residence of Mr. Frederick Miller, grandfather of Robert W. Miller, Esq., of Upper Freehold. It was a regular preaching-place for a time,—between 1790–95. Susan Robbins (afterwards Mrs. Schnyler) heard the sermon; she was then a small girl. Her father, who was a Friend, permitted her to go, but gave her the following instructions: 'Susan, if thee goes to the meeting, thee must do just as they do,' and faithfully did she follow the programme. She stood up with them when they sang, kneeled down when they prayed, and when the preacher arose to preach she stood up also. Methodist preachers afterwards occupied the Episcopal Church, which stood near where Mr. Middleton's tanyard now is. Preaching was irregular up to the time of the organization of the church. Two brothers, Robert and Sylvester Hutchinson, used to travel extensively. They owned farms in this vicinity, and used to leave with an outfit and a hundred dollars, and go till clothing, saddle and horse were worn out and money gone; they would then return to recruit. While in this section they preached extensively. Their father was a Baptist, but was always willing to fit them out for the work. They finally married and settled upon their farms. In 1810, John Dickson, John Imlay, Jr., Samuel Lanning, Anthony Borden, Edward Page and Samuel Robbins were formed into an organization according to law. About that time a church was built on the lot where the African Methodist Episcopal Church now stands, after which there was regular preaching."<sup>1</sup>

About 1832 the church was removed from its first site to where the present house stands, and enlarged. In 1869 it was removed to make room for the present edifice, which was erected in that year. The pastors who have served the church are here given as far as can be ascertained, viz.: 1810, Charles Pitman; 1813, Joseph Totten; 1816, John Robertson; 1821, Sylvester G. Hill; 1828, Thomas Davis; 1832,

<sup>1</sup>The above was published in the Allentown *Industry*, May 20, 1880.





Thomas Neal; 1848, Walter Burrowes; 1858-59, Daniel L. Adams; 1860-61, L. Herr; 1865-66, G. C. Maddock; 1870-71, G. C. Stanger; 1873-74, H. G. Williams; 1875, W. T. Abbott; 1876-77-78, J. L. Souder; 1879-80, G. H. Tullis; 1881-82-83, E. Green; 1884, P. Provost.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLENTOWN dates back only a few years. The first Baptist ministers who held services in the village were the Rev. A. Armstrong and Rev. W. E. Watkinson, who preached in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Rogers' Hall and in a grove near the village. After this the Rev. W. W. Case, of Hamilton Square, preached a number of times, and finally, after Mr. Case had held a series of religious meetings and quite an interest had been awakened, it was proposed to organize a church. On the 7th of December, 1873, the first immersion took place, eleven persons being baptized by Rev. W. W. Case. March 23, 1874, the Baptists of Allentown and vicinity were organized as the First Baptist Church of Allentown, which was on that day publicly recognized by a council of ministers called for that purpose. The first pastor called to serve the church was Rev. W. E. Watkinson, then of Nicetown, Pa., but on account of ill health at the time, Mr. Watkinson was released from serving the church. The Rev. Warren Lincoln was settled as pastor October 12, 1874. This gentleman was highly esteemed by the community, and beloved by the church. He died while pastor of this people, on the 3d of April, 1877. On the 27th of May following, Rev. James W. Grant entered on his duties as pastor. He remained, however, but one year, closing his pastorate in May, 1878. In June of that year Rev. W. H. Burlew became pastor. Soon after this the church took active measures to build a meeting-house and parsonage, and on the 8th of May, 1879, the corner-stone was laid. The house of worship was finished for occupancy December 23, 1879. The church and parsonage are situated on an eligible lot in the heart of the town. They are excellent buildings, though they cost but four thou-

sand six hundred and fifty dollars. The builders were E. B. & B. Rogers.

On the 29th of October, 1881, Rev. Mr. Burlew presented his resignation, and became pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Chambersburg, N. J. The church was, after this, without a pastor several months, but was supplied by different ministers till they called to the pastorate the Rev. S. L. Cox, of Port Jefferson, L. I. Mr. Cox accepted the call, was settled here March 1, 1882, and still holds that position. The deacons are four in number: Simon Dilatash, James M. Yard, Benjamin Rogers and Randall B. Totten. Joseph Darnell is treasurer, and Samuel Flock clerk. At the present time the church numbers about one hundred and twenty-five members.

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH was organized in April, 1869, and soon after purchased the old Episcopal Church edifice. It was then enlarged and refitted and is now occupied by the congregation. In 1872 the house and lot on Main Street was purchased for a parsonage. In 1874 a tract of eight acres, a short distance south of the village, was purchased for a cemetery. The first services were held by Rev. Patrick Leonard, of Bordentown. The first regular pastor was the Rev. James Burgazi. He was succeeded by the present pastor, the Rev. S. Danielou. The congregation numbers one hundred and fifty families.

THE UNION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1835 and built a church on the present site. It was enlarged in 1850 and rebuilt in 1878. The Rev. John Raccoe is the present pastor. He was preceded by the Rev. John Whittaker and the Rev. J. Peirce. The church has now about fifty members.

The Allentown Academy was the successor of a school which had been taught many years under the care of the Presbyterian Church. The academy building stood where the Presbyterian Chapel now stands, and was used until it was torn down, about 1834, and a new building erected, which was rented to the school trustees. The principals of the old academy



were generally students of Princeton. Among them were the Rev. George H. Burrowes, D.D., of California, and the Rev. Abram De Witt.

In 1820 and for several years thereafter, Miss Mary Taylor taught school in a one-story building owned by Dr. George Holcombe. Later, Miss Mary and Catharine Beatty taught a school in a brick building now occupied by T. C. Hutcheson.

A Union School-House was built in 1834, and on April 12th in that year the inhabitants met "at the new Union School-House" and elected as trustees Joseph Sinclair, John Bowen, Jr., Charles Beatty, James Burlingame, William J. Brown, William V. Robbins and Daniel Bills.

A school was held in the lower room of Odd-Fellows' Hall from 1844 to 1863. It was known as Madison Hall School.

The Allentown post-office was established January 1, 1796, and Samuel Quay was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded, April 1, 1798, by Samuel Rogers. The following-named persons have held the office since that time: Richard L. Beatty (appointed July 1, 1801), James Imlay (July 1, 1804), James B. Stafford (April 1, 1805), William Imlay (1820), A. A. Howell (1857), D. W. Bills (1860), John C. Vanderbeck (1861).

The Hope Fire Company was organized about 1850. A hand-engine was purchased and the present engine-house was erected opposite the mill. John C. Vanderbeck, Elisha Robbins and Abel Cafferty were active in the organization of the company. It has at present but three active members.

Madison Lodge, No. 23, I. O. of O. F., was instituted about 1841, and held its meetings in the house of John Osmond. In 1844 a two-story building was erected on Church Street, the lower part of which was used for a school-room and the upper part was fitted up for the lodge-room. The lodge remained in existence until 1863, when it disbanded and the building was sold to Samuel Fidler.

Allentown Lodge, No. 146, I. O. of O. F., worked under a dispensation, and was instituted August 8, 1870. Its charter was granted November 16th in the same year. The first officers were Gilbert H. Worden, N. G.; Richard C.

Waln, V. G.; Alfred D. Waln, Treas.; William E. Miller, Sec. Meetings were first held in a room over John C. Vanderbeck's store, and about 1877 the present rooms over Hankins & Bunting's store were fitted up and occupied. The present officers are: N. G., P. H. White; V. G., H. G. Norton; Rec. Sec., J. H. Clayton; Per. Sec., F. P. Wetherill; Treas., William Hankins. The lodge has about sixty members. The Past Grands have been as follows: Gilbert H. Worden, R. C. Waln, William E. Miller, A. L. Waln, F. P. Wetherill, E. B. Rogers, Robert Tusting, James H. Gillam, F. W. King, Smith H. Eldridge, James Holmes, J. H. Clayton, William Hutchinson, Garret B. Borden, S. E. Pollen, J. C. Vanderbeck, Morgan Hall, G. M. D. Hendrickson, Hammond Gitsinger, Job Carr, E. B. Rogers, Joseph E. Stephenson, William O. Jacoby, Charles Davis, William Hutchinson, William H. Killey, E. H. Dilatash and P. H. White.

Allentown Encampment, No. 53, I. O. of O. F., was chartered with eleven members June 1, 1872. It meets in the rooms of Allentown Lodge and now has about forty-five members. The present officers are W. A. Parker, C. P.; E. B. Rogers, H. P.; Benjamin Rogers, Sen. W.; Job Carr, Jun. W.; F. P. Wetherill, Scribe; J. C. Robbins, Treas. -

The Monmouth Manufacturing Company was started at Allentown in 1814. On the 6th of June in that year Ebenezer Smith sold to the company about twenty-six acres of land on Indian Run. The company was composed of Dr. George Holcomb, Richard L. Beatty and Samuel C. Newell. A cotton-factory was built under the superintendence of James Burlingame, a native of New England. It was operated as a cotton-factory until 1836, when it was changed into a factory for the manufacture of wood-type, under charge of Ebenezer R. Webb. It stood idle for a time, and finally was changed into a woolen-mill by John Simpson. It came into possession of Joseph Darnell, by whom it was changed into a grist-mill, and is now operated as such.

The Allentown Creamery Association was formed in 1881, with Josiah Robbins as president, Charles Cafferty secretary and A. A. Tay-





lor treasurer and superintendent. A three-story frame building, thirty-two by sixty-four, was erected and fitted with all modern improved appliances. They have a capacity of using five hundred barrels of milk per day.

A tannery was established at Allentown in 1839 by George Middleton, who still continues the business. The buildings cover nearly an acre of ground. The tannery has a capacity of tanning three thousand five hundred hides per year.

A carriage-factory was established in Allentown about 1855 by William Cafferty, who was succeeded in 1872 by the present proprietor, Anthony Maps.

ARNEYTOWN VILLAGE, or hamlet, lies on the line between Burlington and Monmouth Counties. It was first settled by Friends. The land is a part of the William Dockwra tract. On the 26th of April, 1705, John Arney purchased the land of Benjamin Borden. On May 3, 1739, Joseph Arney and others petitioned the Chesterfield Monthly Meeting, at Crosswicks, asking "liberty to keep a meeting every first-day at the house of Joseph Arney." On the same day the meeting granted the request as follows: "Isaac Forman, Joseph Arney and several inhabitants near these requested liberty of this meeting to keep a meeting every first-day at a house of Joseph Arney's, and this meeting gives consent that they have liberty to keep a meeting one year."

The meetings were evidently continued beyond that year. In 1749, for some reason not stated, Joseph Arney was "declared out of unity with the meeting." William Lawrie was one of a committee to visit him. A spot of ground containing about an acre and a half was purchased, and a meeting-house erected, for which, in 1756, Joseph Arney gave a deed "for y<sup>e</sup> land belonging to upper freehold meeting, a deed of trust for y<sup>e</sup> same to Peeter Harrison & others." Meetings have not been held regularly in the house for several years, and are now held only by appointment.

The old burial-ground to-day contains low head-stones, evidently put up at a later date than the burials. The earliest date given is

1796. The families buried here to whom have been erected head-stones bearing early dates are Bartram, Canfield, Newbold, Curtis, Lawrie, Schooley, Harris, Tilton and Ellis.

ELLISDALE VILLAGE lies on the line between Monmouth and Burlington Counties. It was early known as Gibbstown, and in 1834 as Shelltown. Gordon's "Gazetteer" of that year says of Shelltown: "It contains some half-a-dozen dwellings. There is a Friends' Meeting-house near it." The meeting-house here referred to is the old school-house which was used by the Friends of Arneytown Meeting.

A blacksmith-shop was in the place one hundred years ago. It was carried on many years by Samuel Stuart. A store was started by John Hodgson about 1838. The postmasters have been Thomas Rogers, William Imlay, George Horner and Thomas Wright, the present incumbent. A Methodist Church was built in 1852, which is under the Crosswicks charge.

CREAM RIDGE is a hamlet containing a store, post-office, Presbyterian Church and several dwellings. A post-office was established at the corners, east, during President Fillmore's administration, and was named Fillmore. William Jackson was appointed postmaster. Upon the completion of the railroad Cream Ridge became a station, and the office was removed to that place. Edward Cross was appointed postmaster, and was succeeded, in 1881, by Thomas Thompson, the present incumbent. Dr. William Davis was a practicing physician in this locality from early manhood to old age. He died a few years ago.

THE CREAM RIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH dates back about twenty years. In 1858 the Presbyterians in the neighborhood accepted of Mr. Daniel Tilton the plat of ground on which the Baptist Church had stood before it was removed to Imlaystown. The present house was erected in that year, and the Rev. Dr. Perkins, of Allentown, preached there for six years on alternate Sabbaths. In 1864 a church was organized, with twenty members, by the Presbytery of Burlington. August 31st of that year Mr. B. H. Withrow was ordained and installed



pastor. He remained five years, resigned March 23, 1869, and was succeeded, in September, 1869, by Rev. William G. Cairnes, who also was in charge of Plumsted Church, at New Egypt. In 1870 the connection of the two churches ceased, and he continued pastor of Cream Ridge until July, 1876, when he resigned. Mr. E. E. Moran, of Princeton Seminary, was installed pastor in June, 1877, and remained until June, 1883. Rev. William J. Henderson was installed in the fall of 1883. He also has charge of Plumsted Presbyterian Church, and resides at New Egypt. The church has sixty members.

HORNERSTOWN is a little village of Upper Freehold, situated in the southeast part of the township, on Lahaway Creek, and on the line of the Pemberton and Hightstown Railroad. Of this little village Gordon's "Gazetteer" (published in 1834) says: "It contains several dwellings, a grist and saw-mill and a fulling-mill." The grist and saw-mill was built on the Lahaway Creek at this place by Caleb Ivins before 1800, and it remained in possession of the family until 1852, when it was sold, and after passing through several hands, it came into the possession of John Goldey, the present proprietor, about 1862.

A post-office was established at this place in January, 1849, and Edward Shreves was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded, in 1856, by William Quicksill, who held the office until 1867, when John H. Ernest was appointed and held it twelve years. In 1879, Charles Hopkins succeeded, and was postmaster till May, 1881, when William Quicksill, the present incumbent, succeeded him.

After 1830 some families living here embraced the doctrines of the Mormons. A church was erected which later was sold to the Catholics, who moved it to the "Sand Lot," where it remained a year, and was then taken down, the society having erected a church at New Egypt. Later, the children of the early Mormons embraced the doctrines of the "Latter-Day Saints," which sect resulted from a split in the Mormon Church. The people of this branch do not believe in polygamy, and claim to be the original followers of Joseph Smith. Meetings were held

here in private houses for a time, and in 1880 a room was fitted for worship over the store of William Quicksell. The society numbers ten members.

About 1870 a few Baptist people here purchased a store building and fitted it up for a chapel. They have been supplied from the church at Jacobstown by the Rev. — Thomas and A. J. Hays. The society numbers about fifteen members.

THE VILLAGE OF WRIGHTSVILLE is located on land which was part of the Baker tract and later belonged to the Lawrence family. The people who settled in the vicinity were mostly Friends who belonged to the Chesterfield Monthly Meeting, at Crosswicks. Meetings were held at the house of Daniel Robbins as early as 1736. A petition was made to the Chesterfield Monthly Meeting, Ninth Month, 2d day, 1738, the account of which, in the minutes, is as follows: "Moses Robins, on behalf of himself and Friends thereabouts, made application to this meeting to build a meeting-house near Robert Lawrence." This request was acted upon at the next Monthly Meeting as follows: "Tenth Month, 7th day, 1738, the Friends near Moses Robins, have liberty from this meeting to build a meeting-house according to their decree." The meeting subscribed eighteen pounds towards the building. The Burlington Monthly Meeting soon after subscribed twelve pounds for the same purpose. The house was built on the present site, and was known as "Robins Meeting." The following quotation is from the minutes: "Sixth Month 6th, 1776, Upper Freehold preparative meeting informs that Samuel Wright Hartshorne hath been active on military service and refuses to make satisfaction." This meeting-house, built in 1738, was used until 1816, when it was torn down and the present brick meeting-house erected on the same lot. Through the influence of Samuel Croft, the name was changed from Robins Meeting to East Branch. It was used regularly for many years, but is now used only by appointed meetings.

In the old burial-place lie the families of Tay-





lor, Combs, Woodward, Wright, Folwell, Potts, Fields, Tantum, Hendrickson, Craft and others. About 1870, Dr. Joseph Taylor, of Burlington, (whose father, Dr. Edward Taylor, was buried here), inclosed the burial-place with a good iron fence. The Robins' family were buried in a burial ground about a mile and a half east.

On the 20th of March, 1833, the Wrightsville Methodist Episcopal Church was incorporated. A meeting-house was erected on land of Samuel G. Wright, and was used for worship for about twelve years and then abandoned.

IMLAYSTOWN VILLAGE is situated near the central part of the township, on Doctor's Creek. Its site was part of the large tract patented by John Baker, May 24, 1690. He died soon after, and it passed to George Willocks, who sold to Richard Salter, Sr. A mill was built on the present site by Mr. Salter before 1700. Upon his death it passed to Richard Salter, Jr., who, in 1727, sold fifty acres, including the mill and thirty-nine acres covered by the mill-pond. Mr. Imlay afterwards purchased a large tract in the vicinity, and was still in possession of it in 1763. A tavern was opened here very early, but no account is obtained of the time or who kept it. The mill property passed from the Imlay family to Benjamin Woodward, who, about the same time, opened a store. Woodward operated the mill until 1845, when he sold it to Edward T. Hendrickson, who, in 1872, conveyed it to Reuben Hendrickson, the present owner.

In 1820, Thomas Elliott was keeping the tavern. In 1828, Jonathan Coward became the owner and landlord. He died in 1848, and it was sold in 1849 to Aaron Eldridge. Afterwards it was sold several times and kept by different parties until 1863, when it was purchased by Reuben Hendrickson, the present owner.

The post-office at Imlaystown was established in 1826 as a private office, and Benjamin Woodward was postmaster. Dr. George F. Fort was postmaster for a short time, from 1833 to 1835. On September 20th in the latter year he was appointed postmaster at New Egypt. He was succeeded at this place by Sidney C. Woodward, who served until 1848. The office was kept in the store, and from this time until 1856 there

were several changes. In that year Isaac Woodward was appointed, and served until 1864, when he was succeeded by Charles Robbins, who held the position until 1869, when he was succeeded by the present postmaster, Sidney Williams.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Imlaystown: "It contains twelve or fifteen dwellings, a grist and saw-mill, tannery, one tavern, one store, wheelwright and smith-shop." The Imlay family still own a part of the original purchase, made in 1727. The physicians who practiced here have been as follows: Dr. Edward Taylor, from 1810; Dr. —Kearney, from 1829; Dr. George F. Fort (afterwards Governor of New Jersey). He lived half a mile south of the village. Dr. Robert Laird came to the place in May, 1838, and remained till December of that year, when he moved to Squan, where he still resides. Dr. William A. Newell succeeded him April 30, 1840. Dr. William Augustus Newell and Dr. William Dunham Newell were brothers. Dr. William D. Newell after his graduation opened an office in partnership with his brother, William A., who removed to Allentown. This partnership continued until July 8, 1847, when it was dissolved and a new partnership was formed, consisting of Dr. William A. Newell, Dr. Leison English, of Allentown, and Dr. William D. Newell, of Imlaystown. Dr. William D. Newell remained in practice at Imlaystown till his death, in 1869. He was succeeded by Dr. Van Zandt, who was, in turn, succeeded by Dr. Peter Pamyca, now of Allentown. Dr. Horace G. Norton is the present resident physician of Imlaystown.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF UPPER FREEHOLD dates back in its organization nearly one hundred and twenty years; and fully a century and a half ago, meetings were held in this vicinity for religious worship by Baptists. "The first of that way was one James Ashton, the eldest son of James Ashton, Baptist minister at Middletown, who came here to Crosswicks, which was then a wild and unsettled place, but possessed with the Indians in great abundance." This James Ashton lived here prior to his Christian profession, and doubtless many years before the church was constituted.



The record of the church states that "some time after, several families, by the names of Lawrence, Cox and Fowler, came here,—all members except Lawrence and his wife." And as the country became more thickly settled, the number multiplied, but they continued for years without a church organization, depending mainly upon the Middletown Church for the ministration of her pastor, or some one of his ministerial assistants, regarding themselves as a branch of that church. After a time the pastor of the Middletown Church "reduced his visits to once in two months, and a licentiate named Coward declined preaching entirely." . . . And then the following persons asked and received letters of dismissal from the mother-church, viz.: Joseph Holmes, William Vaughn, Thomas Farr, David Jones, William Tapscot, Thomas Cox, Jonathan Holmes, Edward Taylor, Peter Sexton, Christopher Morris, Safety Magee, Ezekiel Mount, Thomas Cox, Jr., Abel Edwards, Thomas Walton, William Hankinson, John Williams, Rebecca Cox, Mary Cox, Rachel Sexton, Rebecca Price, Mary Coward, Ann Gordon, Mary Cox, Mercy Vaughn, Catharine Britton, Deborah Cox, Mary Stephenson, Emma Strickland, Rebecca Clayton, Rebecca Walton, Susan Francis, Martha Shepherd, Mary Patterson, Mary Stillwell, Hannah Taylor, Elizabeth Kinman, Alice Coward, Martha Stevenson, Martha Borden, Mary Magee, Elizabeth Taylor, Rebecca Sexton, Elizabeth Mason, Jerusha James, Joseph Taylor and James Sexton, making forty-seven in all, who were recognized as a church of Christ on the 10th day of May, A.D. 1766, by a council consisting of Elders Isaac Stelle, Benjamin Miller and Peter Vanhorn. The church took, and for some seven years retained, the name of the Crosswicks Baptist Church; for what reason is not known, except that its meetings were sometimes held at Crosswicks, where there is said to have been a meeting-house erected in 1751.

The first pastor of this church was Rev. David Jones, of Revolutionary memory and fame. He was the son of Morgan and Eleanor Jones, born in the State of Delaware, May 12, 1736, and was baptized May 6, 1758, by Rev. David Davis. He soon after placed himself

under the tuition of Rev. Isaac Eaton, at Hopewell, and subsequently studied theology with Rev. Abel Morgan, at Middletown. Being at that time a member and licentiate of the church, he preached occasionally at Monmouth Court-House, Cranbury and Crosswicks. He was one of the constituent members of the Upper Freehold Church, and was ordained its pastor December 12, 1766, and continued in that capacity until 1775. During his pastorate twenty-two members were added to the church by baptism.

Some two years after the resignation of Mr. Jones, Rev. William J. Pitman, "a promising young man," was settled, and served as pastor some three years, and then resigning, he lived in Allentown one year (preaching to the destitute), and thence removed to Philadelphia. About fifteen were added to the church during his pastorate. He died at Seekonk, R. I., July 24, 1822, in his seventy-second year.

Rev. John Blackwell was the third pastor. He remained about five years, to general satisfaction, baptizing into the fellowship of the church, thirty-one members.

Rev. Joseph Stephens was the next pastor. He came from North Carolina, and took the pastoral charge here in 1789, and held it until 1793, receiving into the church on profession thirty-eight members. The last learned of him he was under discipline for heretical doctrine, and avowed himself an out and out Universalist.

Rev. David Laborrow then succeeded to the pastorate, for one year. He was followed by Rev. Andrew Harpending, who came from the Methodist denomination; was received into and licensed to preach the gospel by the Swampscott Baptist Church. Thence he came to Upper Freehold, followed by evil reports; remained about three years, baptized fourteen persons, and left under some charges of immorality. In the year 1802 the church appears to have been supplied by Rev. John Morgan, and eleven are reported as received by baptism. From 1803 to 1808 the church was destitute of a pastor, but within that period there was an accession by baptism of thirty-two members. For one or two years from 1808 the pulpit was occupied by Rev. S. B. Harris. Rev. John Cooper suc-





ceeded Mr. Harris in 1813; served as pastor some eight years, and baptized seventeen candidates. The Rev. James M. Challis came to the pastorate in his early manhood. He was ordained December 7, 1822, by Revs. Joseph Shepherd and John Segur, and for a period of sixteen years he labored assiduously, receiving into the church on profession two hundred and thirty-eight converts.

Rev. Levi G. Beck took the oversight of the church April 1, 1838, which he held for five years. He baptized on profession forty-seven converts. He was succeeded in the spring of 1843 by Rev. William A. Ray, a young man of fine talents, but of feeble bodily health. He continued here less than three years, and baptized eight candidates. He subsequently became pastor of the Baptist Church at Charlottesville, Va., where he died in 1849.

Rev. Andrew Armstrong, a licentiate of the Baptist Church at Woodstown, was ordained to the pastorate here in 1846. He remained five years, baptizing on profession sixty converts.

Rev. William J. Nice was the pastor for three years from 1852, during which time only three were baptized. In the fall of 1855, Rev. Samuel Sproul took the oversight of this church, and resigned at the end of two years. While he was pastor a good church edifice was erected at Imlaystown, and thirty members were added to the church on profession.

In the spring of 1858 the church called and settled as pastor Rev. Charles M. Deitz, which position he held eight years, having added to the church by baptism sixty-nine members. During his pastorate (in 1864) the church edifice at Imlaystown was enlarged to its present size. The bell on it is the gift of L. M. Challis, of New York, son of Rev. James M. Challis, former pastor of this church.

The Rev. William D. Hires entered upon his pastorate April 1, 1867, and resigned in the fall of 1878. He was succeeded, in May, 1879, by the Rev. Edward Lonx, who remained as pastor until the winter of 1881-82. In May, 1882, the Rev. David Silver was installed, and remained in service until his death, December 22, 1884. The present (Jan. 1885) membership of the church is two hundred and twenty-four.

The following is a list of the deacons of the church to the year 1869: William Vaughn, Thomas Farr, Thomas Cox, Peter Sexton, Asher Cox, Job Emmons, William Holman, Samuel Barcalow, William Shumar, James Cunningham, Peter Clayton, Hartson Thompson, William Perrine, Enoch Cheesman, David Perrine, Reuben Norris, Lewis Robbins, William Combs, John Goldy, George Taylor, Sidney Williams, and Joseph Holmes. The Rev. Charles L. Williams, son of Deacon Sidney Williams of this church, is a graduate of Princeton and of Crozer Theological Seminary. He is now pastor of the Upland Baptist Church, in Delaware County, Pa., having been installed there in August, 1884. It is his first charge.

The following persons have acted as trustees of the church to 1869, viz.: John Lawrence, Richard Cox, Thomas Cox, Richard Kinman, Forman Mount, William Lloyd, Rev. John Blackwell, John Lloyd, William Parent, James Clayton, Edward Clayton, John Shumar, William Holman, Ezekiel Davison, Samuel Barcalow, Peter Billieu, John Thompson, Thomas Cox, Jr., Adda Mount, William Shumar, James S. Lawrence, James Ivins, Charles Potts, Furman Hendrickson, Thomas Meirs, George Taylor, George Applegate, Samuel Henderson, Lewis Robbins, William Combs, T. T. Tunis, George Cox, John Goldy, John R. Longstreet, John M. Billieu, Joseph Holmes, James S. Giberson, Richard Ridgeway and Job Polhemus.

Within the territory formerly occupied by this church there are now four other churches, either of which (except one) is larger and stronger than this. The church at Jacobstown was constituted in 1785 by thirty-two members dismissed from Upper Freehold. The Bordentown Church, constituted in 1821, was an offshoot of this, though there is no record of the names of members dismissed to constitute it. In 1834 this church dismissed ninety members to constitute the church at Freehold.

The meeting-houses at first used by all of the above-named churches were formerly under the supervision of the mother-church; besides which she has owned four houses of worship, viz.: the yellow meeting-house, a part of



which was built, more than a hundred years ago, on land donated by Richard Salter, Jr., who was buried in the old graveyard of the church; another house, built on Cream Ridge, in 1844; and a small house erected a few years later at Imlaystown, for prayer-meeting and Sunday-school. In 1855 the house on the ridge was removed to Imlaystown, and subsequently (1864) enlarged to its present dimensions, about forty by seventy feet. This last and the first-named are the only meeting-houses now owned by the church; besides which the church owns a parsonage house and lot adjoining the churchyard at Imlaystown.

This church united with the Philadelphia Baptist Association in 1766, and retained that connection until 1813,—a period of forty-seven years. It then became a member of the New Jersey Baptist Association, and so remained until 1868,—a period of fifty-five years.

**THE IMLAY'S HILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** dates back nearly a century. In the year 1790 a few Methodists desirous of having a meeting-house in the vicinity of Imlay's Hill met at the house of Samuel Imlay and elected the following-named persons trustees: Jonathan Coward, Joseph Page, Thomas Sill, Samuel Imlay, Joseph James, John Kein, John Gregory, Jonathan Page and John Page. At the same time Samuel Imlay conveyed to the trustees in trust one acre of land for church purposes. On this lot a church edifice was erected in 1790. It was destroyed by fire in 1807, and being rebuilt, was used until 1855, when it was replaced by the present church, which was dedicated December 25th in that year. A chapel was erected at Imlaystown in 1866, and dedicated January 30, 1867, under charge of J. P. Connelly.

The trustees elected in 1790 served until February 10, 1816, when an election was held at "Emlay's Meeting-House," with the following result: Ezekiel Robins, Joseph Rouzee, Richard C. Robbins, Thomas Throp, Cornelius Hance, John Allensmark and Andrew Nelson. The following-named preachers have served the church during the past seventy years:

1815. David Bartine, Charles Reed.

1816. Peter Van Nest, Thomas Neal.  
 1817. John Finley, James Akins.  
 1818. John Finley, Walter Burrowes.  
 1819. John Wooley, Daniel Fidler.  
 1820. James Akins, John Price.  
 1821. David Best, Bartholomew Weed.  
 1822. Bartholomew Weed, Eliphalet Reed.  
 1823. John Walker, William Lumis.  
 1824. John Walker, Burrowes Jones.  
 1825. John Finley, James Moore.  
 1826. John Finley, James McLaurin.  
 1827. James McLaurin, Levi Prettyman.  
 1828. R. W. Petherbridge, William Granville.  
 1829. William Granville, James Moore.  
 1830. Henry Boehm, T. Steward.  
 1831. Henry Boehm, J. Canfield.  
 1832. W. Williams, C. Ford.  
 1833. W. Williams, — Robold.  
 1834. Henry Boehm.  
 1835. Edward Page.  
 1836. Edward Page.  
 1837. T. Steward.  
 1838. T. Steward, T. Lyon.  
 1839. J. Spear, N. Edwards.  
 1840. J. Spear, J. Mather.  
 1841. J. Long, D. Graves.  
 1842. J. Long, J. Fort.  
 1843. N. Chew, — Griffin.  
 1844. N. Chew, J. Somerill.  
 1845. J. Sleeper, S. Van Zant.  
 1846. J. Sleeper, W. W. Christine.  
 1847. S. Jaquett, William Tunison.  
 1848. William Rogers, F. Robbins.  
 1849. C. Downs, J. Camp.  
 1850. C. Downs, — Scran.  
 1851. S. Decker, J. Mathews.  
 1852. Henry Beegle, — Primrose.  
 1853. Henry Beegle, E. H. Durell.  
 1854. — Palmer, — Cosea.  
 1855. — Palmer, — Parvin.  
 1856. J. White.  
 1857. W. B. Osborn.  
 1858-59. E. H. Durell.  
 1860. George H. Neal.  
 1861-62. N. Edwards.  
 1863-64. R. B. Sutcliffe.  
 1865-66. J. P. Connolly.  
 1867-69. M. Shimp.  
 1870. W. C. Chattin.  
 1871. R. B. Steverson.  
 1872. D. McCurdy.  
 1873-75. Joseph E. Willey.  
 1876. T. D. Sleeper.  
 1877-79. E. Waters.  
 1880-82. J. E. Sawn.  
 1883-84. L. A. Bearmore.

NEW SHARON hamlet lies on the line between Upper Freehold and Mercer County. A Method-





ist Church and school-house are both on the Mercer side. In 1807, William Story established the manufacture of hats at this place, employing from twenty-five to thirty men. It was continued many years by him, and later by his sons, John and William Story. In 1820, Jedediah Middleton built a tannery, which afterwards passed to David Bowman, and was discontinued about 1840, under Alfred Conover. In 1820, Isaac Wilson built a mill, which, after a few years, was changed into a store. A post-office was established at the place several years ago. Upon the completion of the Pemberton and Hightstown Railroad, the office was removed to the railway station.

CANTON, or (as it is better known) Cabbagetown, lies on the line between Upper Freehold and Mercer County. Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Cabbagetown: "It contains half a dozen dwellings, a wheelwright, smith and joiner-shop." It has not been much changed since that time.

PROSPERTOWN lies on the line between Upper Freehold and Ocean County. It contains a post-office, which was established in June, 1881, with Mrs. Sarah Johnson postmistress. She was succeeded, in April, 1882, by Howell Imlay. A school-house is on the Ocean County side. The district contains eighty-five children of school age. Before 1800 a fulling-mill was built on a branch of Lahaway Creek in Jackson township, which, about 1800, was moved to the site of the present mill by Moses Ivins and changed into a grist-mill. It remained in the Ivins family until 1880, when E. P. Empson, the present owner and proprietor, purchased it.

The township of Upper Freehold contains ten school districts and nine hundred and four children of school age. The school property is valued at sixteen thousand three hundred dollars. The history of the different schools in the township, as far as can be ascertained is as follows:

Allentown District, No. 14.—The early schools in Allentown were private and connected with the church (as mentioned in the history of the

village) until about 1834, when the old academy was rebuilt, rented to the school trustees, and used for the public school until the erection of the present school building in 1876. The district at present contains two hundred and thirty children of school age, and the property is valued at six thousand dollars.

Centre District, No. 15.—The first school-house in this locality was erected at Pullens-town in 1839-40, and used until the present frame building was erected, in 1869. The district contains sixty-five children of school age.

East Branch District, No. 16.—The Friends established a meeting and erected a meeting-house in this locality in 1739, and soon after erected the school-house that stood prior to 1819 between the present residences of J. West and E. T. Hendrickson. The road formerly passed between these two farms, and the old house was on a corner. In 1819, Ezekiel Combs donated the present lot, and the octagonal brick house was erected. It is about twenty feet in diameter; a door covered by a porch occupies one side; each of the other sides contains a small window. The roof is a steep pitch and shingled. The interior is lathed and plastered to the peak, which is surmounted by a chimney. The stove stands in the centre of the room. This unique structure is still used and in good preservation. The district contains eighty-five scholars of school age.

A school-house was erected about 1825 on the farm of Samuel Wright, which was used about twelve years and abandoned. J. Callahan was a teacher in this house.

Imlaystown District, No. 17.—The first school-house of which anything is known in this district stood about three-fourths of a mile south from the village, and was used over seventy-five years ago. With some repairs, it was continued until the present two-story frame house was erected in the village, in 1866. The district now contains one hundred and five children of school age.

Cowart District, No. 18.—The first school-house in this locality was erected before the Emlay's Hill meeting-house was built, in 1791, on the Daniel Hendrickson farm, between the present house and Skunktown. It was torn



down in 1858, and the present house erected on the same farm. This was rebuilt in 1880 and is now used. The district contains seventy children of school age.

Cream Ridge District, No. 19.—The children in this vicinity for many years attended school near Hornerstown. The present brick house was built over sixty years ago. A small school-house was erected on the Presbyterian Church lot many years ago, and a private school was taught in it until 1880, when it was abandoned. The district contains fifty-eight scholars of school age.

Pleasant Ridge District, No. 20.—In 1838 William Forsyth donated a lot of land for school purposes, and the citizens united and erected the school-house in that year. It has been used from that time to the present, having been repaired in 1883. The district contains forty scholars of school age.

Ellisdale District, No. 21.—The school-house now in use was moved in May, 1867, to its present location, on land donated by George Tilton. It originally stood back on the Tilton farm, and was used both as a school-house and Friends' Meeting house. It was erected before 1812. Mrs. Theodosia Craig, a number of years ago, left by will four hundred dollars each to this school and Hornerstown. The district now contains fifty children of school age.

Marl Ridge District No. 22.—The first school-house in this district was about three-quarters of a mile from the village, on the Monmouth road. The teachers were James B. Stafford and Samuel C. Rodney. The house was afterwards used as a dwelling house. The next school building was on the New Egypt road. It was a dwelling-house owned by Robert Woodward, by whom it was given for the purpose of a school, and it was removed to the present site, where it was refitted. It was eighteen by twenty-four feet, with a ceiling five feet six inches in height, which, in after years, was raised eighteen inches. The school was opened in 1820, and was taught by James Callahan until 1824. It is stated that John M. Horner, now or recently a millionaire of San Francisco, but a native of this place, made the desk and seat in the old house in which he was

both pupil and teacher. The present two-story school building was erected in 1871, and opened with ceremonies December 15th, in that year, at which time Superintendent Samuel Lockwood delivered an address containing the facts given above. The district at present contains one hundred and nine children of school age. The following is a list of teachers from 1824 to the present time:

- 1824-27. Israel J. Woodward.
- 1828. Mary Taylor and Mary G. Taylor
- 1829. Edward Tolett.
- 1832. John Downy.
- 1834. Benjamin Sweet.
- 1836. James B. Woodward.
- 1837. John L. Fuller.
- 1838. Thomas E. Antrim.
- 1840. John M. Horner.
- 1840. Elizabeth Moore.
- 1841. Ann Chamberlain.
- 1846. John Kerland.
- 1850. Henry Cooke.
- 1851. John L. Hayes.
- 1852. William Errickson.
- 1854. John Beazley.
- 1856. Joseph Balcom.
- 1856. Aaron West.
- 1857. Daniel C. Warren.
- 1859. Thomas C. Harrison.
- 1861. Charles L. Lamb.
- 1863. Amos Atkinson.
- 1867. Charles Booth.
- 1869. John M. Nutt and John M. Harker.
- 1870-71. Kate Walter.
- 1872. Charles Harker.
- 1873. David Waldon.
- 1874. Ella Wilson.
- 1875-84. George H. Johnson.

Arneytown District, No. 23, embracing a part of the adjoining township in Burlington County, was organized in 1874, in which year the school-house was erected. It is used also for religious worship. The district contains ninety-two children of school age.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

COLLEN B. MEIRS.—The Meirs family are of Scotch lineage, the great-great-grandfather of Collen B. having been Christopher Meirs, born in 1700, whose children were David, John, Job and Joseph.





David Meirs, whose birth occurred in 1740, married Martha Swaim, and had one son, Apollo, and daughters,—Keturah, who married Joel Cook; and Elizabeth, who married Anthony Emley. Apollo Meirs, born in 1765, married Unity Shinn, whose children were Martha, married to Abraham Tilton; John, married to Lueretia Gaskill; Thomas, married to Rebecca H. Conover; and David. He married, a second time, Ann Burtis, whose children were Sarah, married to Daniel Tilton; William, married to Mary Stewart; Unity, married to John Bruere; and Charles, married, first, to Sarah Ann Cox, and, second, to Anna E. Robins.

Thomas Meirs, born in 1798, and his wife, Rebecca H. Conover, born in 1805, had children,—Martha Ann, married to Joseph Holmes; Mary L., married to John R. Longstreet; John, who died in youth; and Collen B. Mrs. Thomas Meirs, is the daughter of Garret and Alice Hendrickson Conover, and the granddaughter of Jacob and Mary Schanek Conover, or Covenhoven (German lineage).

Collin B. Meirs was born September 7, 1833, in the township of Upper Freehold, on the homestead farm, which has been in the Meirs family four generations. Since childhood this has been his home. His earliest educational advantages were received under the direction of Rev. Samuel Aaron, at Treemount Seminary, Norristown, Pa., with whom he spent four years, subsequently graduating at the Freehold Institute, N. J. Returning to his father's house, he at once became interested in the varied employments of the farm, and was, December 13, 1855, married to Louisa Butterworth, granddaughter of William and Rachel Butterworth, and daughter of John Butterworth, born in 1800, and his wife, Keturah Stockton, of Burlington County, N. J.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Meirs are Rebecca C. (wife of William H. Davis), Thomas and Helen. On the decease of his father, Collen B. became by inheritance the owner of the farm, and has since that date been interested in the pursuits of an agriculturist. Whilst well informed on all matters pertaining to his calling, and ranking among the most enlight-

ened and successful farmers of his township, he has given much attention to the raising of superior stock, being among the first to introduce the Holstein-Friesian cattle in the county. In 1881 he, with a few others, established the Cream Ridge Creamery, filling for a period the office of president, and subsequently becoming its superintendent, which office he now holds. The success attending this institution is in a great measure attributed to his judicious management.

On the organization of the First National Bank of Hightstown, N. J., he was made a director, and now fills the position of president. In 1864 he was named as one of the incorporators of the Pemberton and Hightstown Railroad Company; subsequently he was made a director and its treasurer, which positions he now occupies. He has been among the most public-spirited citizens of the county, and identified with many enterprises which have inured to the welfare of its citizens.

His judgment, integrity and ability have caused him often to be chosen for such important offices as executor and trustee, and made his counsel valuable in matters of public and private significance. Mr. Meirs is a strong and working Republican in politics. He served for eleven consecutive years on the Board of Freeholders, and was, in 1874, elected county auditor, which office he held for seven years. He was, in 1871, nominated for the State Senate, and came within four hundred and ten votes of carrying the strong Democratic county of Monmouth. Mr. and Mrs. Meirs are both members of the Upper Freehold Baptist Church, of which the former is a trustee.

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REV. HENRY PERKINS, D.D.—Henry Perkins, the son of Eliphaz and Lydia (Fitch) Perkins, was born in Vergennes, Vt. February 9, 1796. His father, a graduate of Yale College, was a practicing physician. His mother was a sister of the Rev. Dr. Ebenezer Fitch, president of Williams College, Massachusetts. Both his parents were natives of Connecticut and both were exemplary Christians, as were all his ancestors as far as known. In 1798, Dr. E. Perkins removed West with





Colten "Q. Meir's"







Henry Perkins



his family. After a brief sojourn in Marietta, where his wife died, he settled in Athens, Ohio. Here the Ohio University is located. Dr. E. Perkins was for many years a trustee of that young university, since known as the *Alma Mater* of not a few distinguished men. Here it was that his son, the subject of this brief record, received his academic and collegiate education, and was graduated with the degree of A.B. He received his theological education in the seminary at Princeton, N. J. On leaving the seminary, in 1820, he was ordained and installed pastor of the churches of Allentown and Nottingham Square. These churches, small at his coming, under his ministry grew in numbers and strength. New church edifices were erected in both congregations, and each desired to secure the whole time of their pastor. He decided to remain at Allentown, and to the church there, his only pastorate, he ministered for forty-three years. During that time he received into the church between five and six hundred, of whom between four and five hundred on the profession of their faith in Christ. Several revivals of religion blessed his ministry. His manner in the pulpit was solemn and impressive. He seemed never to forget that he was the Lord's ambassador, and on a mission of all the most momentous. He was faithful and affectionate as a pastor, ever seeking the highest good of his people. His mode of address was what is called extempore, but was not without careful preparation. His voice—heavy, clear, far-reaching—was well adapted to public speaking. His delight was to unfold the unsearchable riches of the gospel of Christ, and he was perhaps never more happy in this than on Sabbath afternoons in the school-houses of his somewhat widely extended parish, when the people would gather for miles around till the place was often too "strait" for them.

Two new churches were erected in the vicinity of these school-houses. As years advanced he considered his strength inadequate to the charge of so large a congregation, and at his request, in the year 1864, the pastoral relation was dissolved. He continued to live among his former people, and for several years to

preach as strength and opportunity permitted, often in his old pulpit and always with acceptance.

The degree of D.D. was conferred on him by the College of New Jersey in the year 1858. Soon after his ordination he married Miss Eliza A., daughter of Dr. John Reeve, of Rocky Hill, N. J. The prudent forethought, the ever-watchful eye and the sympathetic nature of his wife added not a little to the success of his ministry. She was taken from him by death in November, 1850. Two daughters, their only children, are still living,—one the wife of Honorable James H. Bruere, of Princeton, N. J., and the other the wife of the Rev. John H. Pratt, now residing at the old homestead, in Allentown, N. J. Dr. Perkins afterwards married Miss Lydia Newbold, of Springfield, N. J. She, too, was a helper in the gospel. She died September 20, 1871. During the last years of his life Dr. Perkins, owing to failing health and strength, was confined the most of the time to his house and study. Here the Bible was his chosen companion and the Scripture promises a constant source of consolation. His death, caused by a sudden and severe stroke of paralysis, occurred June 30, 1880.

Many of his old friends, with their children, and children's children, attended his funeral. His remains rest, among his beloved people, in the cemetery near the church, whither they were borne by six of his brethren in the ministry, there to await the resurrection of the just.

JOSEPH HOLMES.—Jonathan Holmes, the son of Joseph Holmes and the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, resided upon the farm now owned by the latter in Upper Freehold township. To his wife, a Miss Ashton, were born children,—Joseph, Elizabeth and Alice. Joseph, the only son, spent his life upon the farm where his birth occurred, having married Mary Bruere, of the same township, whose children were Jonathan, born in 1794; James, in 1796; Joseph, —; Alice, in 1798 (wife of Dr. William Davis); and Sarah, in 1809 (wife of John H. Bruere).

Joseph, of this number, was born on the 24th





of November, 1810, and has spent his life at the scene of his birth. His education, begun at the district school of the neighborhood, was completed at Burlington, N. J., after which he returned to the farm and was actively engaged in its various departments of labor. The property having been sold, on attaining his majority, he became the purchaser, though already the owner of that portion which fell to him by inheritance. He was, on the 27th of October, 1842, married to Martha Ann, daughter of Thomas S. and Rebecca Meirs, whose birth occurred October 23, 1824. Their children are Mary, born February 1, 1844 (Mrs. James L. Rue); Sarah, August 9, 1845, who died August 16, 1849; and Joseph, whose birth occurred July 11, 1849. Mr. Holmes has made farming the business of his life. Although his career has not been especially noticeable for new departures in the science of agriculture, he has kept pace with the latest inventions and improvements that are made available in aiding the farmer, and has been successful in his business operations. Mr. Holmes fills the office of director of the Hightstown National Bank, and is a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. His political sympathies are with the Republicans, though indifferent to office and seldom found among the party leaders or workers. He is a director of the Pemberton Railroad and has been associated with other important enterprises. Mr. Holmes is in his religious faith a Baptist, and both deacon and trustee of the Baptist Church of Upper Freehold. The grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are Annie H. and Joseph H. (children of James L. and Mary Rue), and Sarah, Joseph G. and George B. (children of Joseph and Helen Holmes).

**ABEL CAFFERTY.**—Abel Cafferty is of Irish descent, and is the grandson of William Cafferty, who resided at Red Bank, N. J., where he carried on the occupations of a tanner, shoemaker and farmer. He married Mary Bowers, of Holland Dutch descent, and to them were born children,—John, Nathaniel, Josiah, Joel, Samuel and two daughters.

Nathaniel Cafferty was born in Upper Free-

hold, and early acquired his father's trade, which he followed at Imlaystown. He married Patience, daughter of Vanroom Robbins, of Middlesex County, whose children were John, Abel, Lydia Ann (married Charles Hopkins), Enoch and Vanroom. Of these, John and Lydia Ann are now deceased.

Abel Cafferty was born at Imlaystown on May 21, 1813, and until twenty-one years of age lived at that place, where his time was spent at the common school, the trade of shoemaking and for a period of two years in farming. His father having rented the saw-mill, upon the site of which now stands the grist-mill owned by Mr. Cafferty, at Allentown, N. J., when Abel was twenty-two years of age he proceeded thither, and was there employed in connection with his father for five years, when he leased the mill for a period of five years, and also engaged in the making of sausage. In 1845, Mr. Cafferty bought the mill property, and later erected a new saw and grist-mill, which he conducted successfully till 1883, when he rented the grist-mill to his son Howell, still controlling the saw-mill and adjacent property. The mill built in 1855 was constructed by Mr. Cafferty, the bricks being made at his brickyard, under his personal supervision. He has, in addition to these enterprises, been a successful farmer, and at one time engaged in the growth of mulberry trees for the purpose of silk-culture; this, however, was but an indifferent success. Mr. Cafferty was formerly a Democrat, but is now a Republican in his political opinions, and has never held a political position excepting that of constable, his business interests having precluded any active participation in politics. He is connected with the leading business interests of the town, and gives his support to the Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Cafferty is a member.

On October 19, 1843, Mr. Cafferty married Margaret, daughter of Joseph Walker, born in Germany; was a resident of Allentown. Mrs. Cafferty was born October 30, 1822. To them have been born children,—Mary W. (Mrs. William Hankins), Charles (married Fanny, daughter of Daniel W. Bills, of Allentown), Elizabeth (Mrs. Joseph Rodgers), John (married Emma, daughter of James Parker, of Allentown) and





*Joseph Holmes*





Howell (married Kate, daughter of William Tiel, of Bordentown).

Mr. Cafferty is a man greatly respected for his solid worth, and is now, as his years of life draw near to a close, enjoying the fruits of honest industry and his laudable desire to "get on in the world."

**JAMES D. HALL.**—Abner Hall, the father of James D. Hall, resided in Upper Freehold

spent. The usual life of a farmer's son was his, and such education as the common schools of the neighborhood afforded was acquired. After a few years spent in Philadelphia, where he learned the trade of a bricklayer, he returned to his home, and embarked in business as a distiller, and also in the manufacture of cider. At a later date he engaged in the manufacture of vinegar, which employment he followed up to the time of his death. Soon after his return



*Abel Cafferty*

township, Monmouth County, N. J., and followed the occupation of a farmer. He married Mary Dillon, and to them were born children,—Hannah (Mrs. Horton Cooper), James D., Alice (Mrs. Samuel Burke), Lydia, George (married Catherine Conover) and Mary (Mrs. James Burke).

James D. Hall was born April 9, 1818, upon the homestead farm in Upper Freehold township, and there the earlier part of his life was

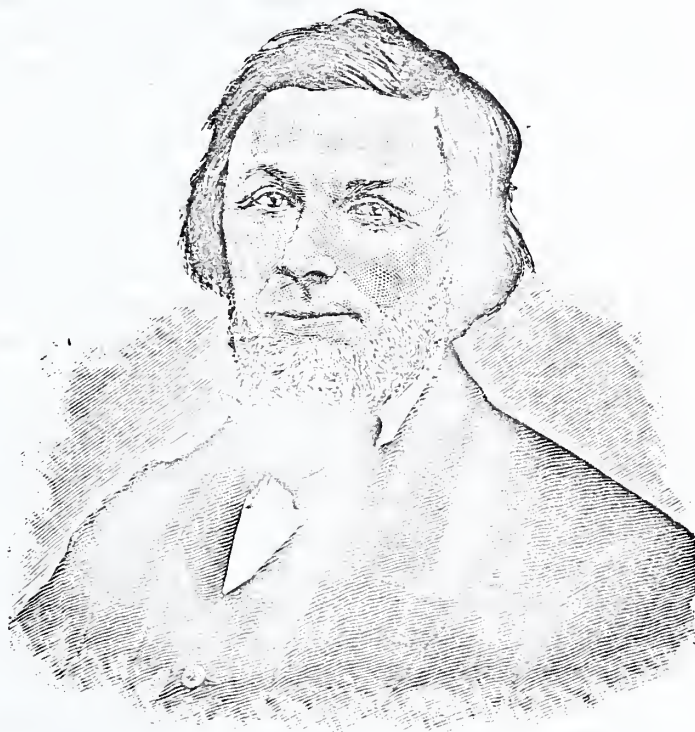
to Upper Freehold he purchased a farm adjoining the family homestead, and this he cultivated. Some years later he purchased the homestead farm; and at the time of his death he owned five hundred acres of good land, all purchased from his unaided earnings. He was an active business man, and one highly respected in the community in which he lived; a strong Democrat in his political views, and as such served in the New Jersey Legislature in 1849—



50. He was a director in the Hightstown National Bank, an active Mason, a member of the Odd-Fellows' fraternity, and also of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. On January 23, 1839, he married Alice Jamieson, whose children were Hannah, Virginia, James E. and Eleanor (Mrs. George R. Field). He was married, February 5, 1874, to Mary, daughter of William S. Rue, of Upper Free-

in the forty-seventh year of his age. He received a classical education at New Brunswick, studied medicine with his brothers, Azariah D. Newell, M.D., and William A. Newell, M.D.; graduated at the Medical College of the District of Columbia in 1844, and begun the practice of his profession at Imlaystown where he continued to reside until his death.

During the War of the Rebellion he enlisted



*James D. Hall*

hold, to whom was born one daughter, Mary D.

Mr. Hall's death occurred February 1, 1883.

DR. WILLIAM DUNHAM NEWELL, fifth and youngest son of James H. and Eliza D. Newell, was born at Black's Hills, Monmouth County, on the 20th of February, 1823, and died at Imlaystown on the 22d of November, 1869,

as a private in the Union army, but was soon after appointed surgeon of the Twenty-eighth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers, a position which he filled with great skill and acceptance until the expiration of his term of service. He was present at the first and second battles of Fredericksburg, at that of Chancellorsville, and also in several minor engagements; was repeatedly exposed to the fire of the enemy, but always performed his duties on the field with





coolness and courage, never shrinking from danger. His life was devoted exclusively to his professional business, and he had at all times a large and lucrative practice. His thorough knowledge of disease, extensive experience, keen perception, sound judgment and close application combined to render him eminently successful as a practitioner, and gained for him a widespread and well-deserved reputation as a physician, not only with the people, but also with his medical brethren, with whom his relations were most friendly and intimate. He was possessed of extraordinary delicacy of touch and mechanical talent, and was a dextrous manipulator. These qualities rendered him a successful surgeon, so that in the adjustment of wounds, luxations, fractures, application of splints and bandages, and in the management of such other surgical cases as came in his practice he had no superior. He was a constant reader, keeping pace with the most advanced ideas and improvements in the medical profession; was a close student of history, familiar with the best poetry of the language, and was thoroughly versed in current literature. He was an accomplished musician, performing well upon almost every variety of instrument. As a delineator and painter he especially excelled, and many of his off-hand productions challenged the admiration of masters. He was large-hearted and liberal, and never turned the poor empty away. He was a vigorous and athletic gymnast, rapid as a flash, and of unerring aim. In person he was dignified and imposing, and in mien and manner carried the attributes of a true gentleman. During his term of service in the army the exposure to which he was subjected induced several severe attacks of pneumonia, which, together with a violent injury received at the first battle of Fredericksburg, undermined his health, and resulted in his death. He died where he had lived during all the years of his manhood, beloved by the people, and at peace with God and all mankind. His remains were interred in the cemetery attached to the Presbyterian Church at Allentown, attended to their final home by a multitude of loving and sorrowing friends.

## CHAPTER XX.

## HOWELL TOWNSHIP.

HOWELL is one of the southern tier of townships of Monmouth County. Its boundaries are: On the north, Atlantic township; on the east, Wall township; on the south, Ocean County; on the west, Ocean County and the township of Freehold. The Manasquan River flows southeastwardly through the central part of the township, in which it receives the waters of several tributaries, the principal of which is the Mingamahone Brook, which flows nearly south and enters the main stream near the east line of the township. The north branch of Metedecunk Creek flows through Howell along its entire southwestern and southern border, leaving the township at its southeastern corner, and passing thence into Ocean County, where it unites with the main stream, which flows into Barnegat Bay. Two railway lines pass through the territory of Howell,—viz., the Jamesburg and Freehold Agricultural Railroad (now a part of the lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company), which traverses the township from northwest to southeast, and the New Jersey Southern Railroad (now operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company), which enters the township near its northeast corner and passes through it thence in a southwesterly direction. The two railroads cross each other at the village of Farmingdale. The population of Howell, by the United States census of 1880, was three thousand three hundred and seventy-four.

Howell was formed from territory taken from Shrewsbury and erected into a township by the provisions of an act of Assembly passed February 23, 1801, which declares that "All that part of the township of Shrewsbury, in the county of Monmouth, lying within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at the main sea or ocean, in the middle of Shark River Inlet, and from thence running up the main stream thereof, up along the several windings, to a place called and known by the name of the Horse Pound;<sup>1</sup> and from thence from a certain pine

<sup>1</sup> Tradition says this place was so called because here the Indians caught the horses and cattle of the early set-



tree standing by the edge of the brook in the Horse Pound, lettered I. P., said to be the beginning corner of a tract of land surveyed and returned for Joseph Potter (deceased), on a straight line to the head-spring of Mingumehone Branch, at the foot of Manohomy Hill, near the Widow Harvey's house; and from thence on a straight line to the most southerly corner of a tract of land belonging to the Reverend Samuel Pyle,<sup>1</sup> called the Mill Tract; from thence, along said Pyle's southerly bound lines, till it meets the easterly bound line of the township of Freehold; and from thence along said line southerly until it meets the northerly bound line of the township of Dover; and from thence eastwardly along the line of said township until it comes to the main ocean; and from thence along the same northerly to the place of beginning, shall be, and the same is hereby, set off from the township of Shrewsbury; and the same is hereby established a separate township, to be called by the name of The Township of Howell." The name given to this township was in honor of Richard Howell, then Governor of New Jersey.

The act (passed February 15, 1850) which erected the county of Ocean declared it divided into six townships, viz.: the existing townships of Stafford, Jackson, Plumsted, Union and Dover, and the then erected new township of Brick, which was to be composed of a part of Dover township and of that part of Howell lying south of the county line of Monmouth and Ocean. It appears that by a mistake made in

the description of the boundaries of Brick township at the time of its erection, it was not made to include all that part of Howell township which was thrown into Ocean County; on which account a supplement was passed in 1851, enacting that "All that part of the township of Howell, which, by the formation of the township of Brick, became detached from the aforesaid township of Howell, and lying on the south side of the township of Brick, be and the same is hereby declared to belong and attached to, and form a part of the township of Dover."

In 1851 Howell was reduced to its present limits by the erection of the township of Wall from that part lying between Shark River and the line of Ocean County. The description of the territory taken from Howell in the formation of Wall is given in the history of the latter township.

The following is a list of chosen freeholders of Howell township from its formation to the present year, viz.:

- 1801-4. David Lewis.
- 1805. James Allen.
- 1805-15. Samuel I. Forman.
- 1828-39. Nicholas Van Wickle.
- 1839-50. Jesse Cowdrick.
- 1840. Samuel F. Allen.
- 1841-42. Josiah Wainright.
- 1843-50. Benjamin Lafetra.
- 1850-56. James Cooper.
- 1857-72. Charles Butcher.
- 1873-75. Austin H. Patterson.
- 1876. W. Thompson Little.
- 1877-78. Austin H. Patterson.
- 1879-81. Charles H. Boud.
- 1882-84. Austin H. Patterson.

tlers, which ran at large in the woods, distinguished as to their ownership only by certain marks or brands, which were entered in the township and county records. It was said that the Indians built a brush fence in the form of a triangle, the apex of which was at a point where there was a bog or quagmire. From this place the fences diverged until the two were nearly a mile apart. Into this opening the horses and cattle were driven, until they came to the bog, where they sunk into the mire, and were then easily taken by the Indians.

<sup>1</sup>This should be Rev. Simon Pyle. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and preached during the first part of his life through Virginia, Maryland and South Jersey. He afterwards settled in Monmouth County as a farmer, and was also a local preacher. He was the father of Simon F. Pyle, a well-known surveyor of this county.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 gives the following in reference to Howell township: "Manasquan, Squankum and Howell Furnace are post-towns in this township. Its population in 1830 was 4141. In 1832 there were in the township about eight hundred taxables, one hundred and two-hundred householders, whose ratables did not exceed thirty dollars and forty-two single men, eleven stores, ten saw-mills, five grist-mills, two fulling-mills, four carding-machines, twenty-six tan-vats, two distilleries, one furnace in operation, three hundred and sixty-five horses and mules, and fourteen hundred neat cattle."





FARMINGDALE is the principal village of Howell, lying in the eastern part of the township, north of its centre. It is situated on Mingamahone Brook, and at the crossing of the New Jersey Southern Railroad and the line running from Freehold to Manasquan.

From a time before the Revolution down to 1815, or later, this place was known as "Marsh's Bog," and afterwards as Upper Squankum, which latter was the name given to the post-office when it was established there in 1819.<sup>1</sup> The name of the office was changed to Farmingdale April 1, 1854.

During the Revolution, Thomas Borden kept a tavern, which stood nearly opposite the store of Jacob Lutz. In this old tavern the bar-room ceiling was pierced by bayonets, said to be those of British soldiers, but it is much more likely it was done by men of the Monmouth militia, who were posted there from time to time during the war. Soon after the death of Thomas Borden his widow married James Parker, who continued the tavern. Hugh Boud married a daughter of Thomas Borden, and he afterwards kept the tavern, and was the last landlord. It was closed about 1838. Charles G. Boud, of Farmingdale, is a son of Hugh Boud.

About 1815, William Little built a tavern at the turn of the road that leads to Freehold, and kept it until about 1855. He also had a blacksmith-shop at the Corners. The first store was kept by Henry Remsen, and later by H. Wainwright, whose successors in the business have been Joseph Goodenough, William Goodenough and Jacob Lutz. The American Hotel, now kept by C. W. Brower, was built upon the opening of the railroad in 1868.

In 1864, William H. Vann erected a foundry, which he carried on until 1870, when it was sold to Lafetra & Van Note. It is now owned and operated by Grandin Van Note.

The post-office was established at Upper

Squankum (now Farmingdale) March 25, 1819, upon the opening of a mail route from Freehold to Tuckerton. James Parker was appointed postmaster, and held the position until August 9, 1826, when he was succeeded by Halsted H. Wainwright. He was succeeded, about 1850, by Joseph Goodenough. In 1858, William Goodenough was appointed, and held it until 1883, when Mrs. S. W. Hankins, the present postmaster, was appointed.

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF FARMINGDALE has a history covering about forty years. In 1844, though the Methodists in this section had no church edifice, yet they had bought a parsonage house for the preacher of the circuit, and on the 5th of September in that year they elected trustees. The parsonage was described as being "in the village of Upper Squankum, in the township of Howell." In 1848 a lot was purchased of Catharine Wainwright, and the corner-stone of a church edifice was laid in 1849. The building was finished and dedicated in 1850, remodeled in 1866 and reopened January 1, 1867. The Revs. W. E. Barrett and W. C. Stockton were ministers in charge in 1850. They were succeeded by the following-named ministers: William Franklin and Josiah Canfield, 1853-54; Mordecai C. Stokes, 1858; John L. Souder, 1859; S. Jaquett, 1860-61; G. H. Tullis, 1862-63; William E. Boyle, 1864-65; William B. Osborn, 1870-71; S. C. Chattin, 1872-74; T. S. Wilson, 1875; S. W. Lake, 1876; G. G. Graw, 1877-78; S. W. Lake, 1879-80; T. C. Carman, 1881-82; E. Gifford, 1883; W. F. Herr, 1884. The church has a membership of two hundred.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH at Farmingdale was organized December 29, 1870, by the Monmouth Presbytery. The church, at its organization, consisted of Gilbert Davison and ten ladies, who were members of various churches. A call was extended, in July, 1871, to the Rev. Daniel W. Teller, which was not accepted. The Rev. E. J. Pierce, who had lately returned from a missionary field of labor on the Gaboon River, in Africa, came to this place and supplied the church from August 1873

<sup>1</sup> The name, however, clung to the place after the establishment of the post-office. Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 mentions it as "Marsh's Bog," situate in Howell township, nine miles southeast of Freehold, and says, "It contains two taverns, two stores and ten or twelve dwellings."



until October, when he was installed pastor, and he is still in charge.

Meetings were held for worship in the school-house. On the 1st of October, 1872, a contract was made with George C. Hulett to erect a church building, thirty-six by fifty-five feet, for three thousand dollars. The edifice was dedicated August 21, 1873, and is still occupied by the church.

For some time the society increased rapidly in numbers but by reason of removals to the coast in late years, it now numbers only about sixty members.

Mingamahone Lodge, No. 162, I.O. of O.F., was instituted in 1874, with the following persons as charter members: J. Mount Smith, J. Monroe Wainwright, Henry W. Lake, Charles E. Bartow and Edwin C. Barkalow. The present officers are J. J. Lippincott, N. G.; B. M. Disbrow, V. G.; C. H. Boud, Rec. Sec.; Joseph Morton, Per. Sec.; Edwin Miller, Treas. The lodge now has about thirty-five members.

The Friendship Rebekah Lodge, No. 37, I. O. of O. F., of Farmingdale, was instituted November 14, 1873, with ten female and seventeen male charter members. The lodge soon ceased to exist.

Squankum Tribe, No. 39, Improved Order of Red Men, was instituted May 7, 1873, with twenty-four members. It now has twenty-two members. The present officers are James M. Lippincott, Sachem; Jacob Lutz, Senior Sagamore; S. C. Burdge, Junior Sagamore; W. W. Brower, Chief of Records; B. M. Disbrow, Prophet; C. W. Brower, Keeper of Wampum.

LOWER SQUANKUM lies in the southeast part of the township, on the Manasquan. In 1820 one Lloyd was the owner of a grist-mill at this place. In 1834 there were here two taverns, one store, a Friends' Meeting-house, a grist-mill and fulling-mill and twelve or fifteen dwellings. In that year the "Free Meeting-House" was built here. William Clayton, William K. Van Note, Ephraim B. Wainwright, George G. Johnson and John Woodmansie were elected trustees. The house has been occupied mostly (though not regularly) by Methodist ministers,

but has been free to, and been used by, other denominations, as ministers could be obtained.

The Friends' Meeting-house was built on a lot of three-fourths of an acre of land, which was sold for that purpose February 21, 1778, by Patterson Cook to George Parker, Obadiah Williams, Obadiah Tilton, Britton White, Benjamin Corlies and Peter Corlies, trustees of the Friends' Meeting. The old building stood on the opposite side of the stream from the mill. The old burial-place still remains. The meeting-house has long since gone down. A school-house was built here in 1839. In 1856 the mill was sold by R. T. Stout to Nesbit Brothers, and by them to Charles B. Hulett, who, in 1872, sold to W. A. Prickett, who is now the owner and is also postmaster, having succeeded John Stokay, who had been postmaster many years, until 1879.

WEST FARMS, formerly known as New Bargaintown, is located near the centre of the township. A mill was built at this place about 1830, and it was in building the dam across the river that marl was discovered in this locality, which resulted in the formation of the Squankum Marl Company (incorporated March 26, 1863; capital, thirty thousand dollars), who operated largely in this section.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A writer, in 1860, said of this marl region,—

"Squankum marl took its name from the village of Squankum, which lies on the northern extremity of the marl district. Marl was first discovered about 1830, in sinking a mud sill in building a dam across the head of Squan River, at New Bargain Mills, and for the last twenty years immense and increasing quantities have been used yearly. It is safe to say that it has made what was once a very poor section of Monmouth County one of the most fertile districts of the State. It has raised the price of land in many places from five dollars to one hundred dollars per acre, and has placed land-owners—of whom it was said the more land they owned the poorer they were—in very affluent circumstances. The marl district begins on the stream which forms the head of Squan River, a little above New Bargain Mills, and on both banks of the stream, for a distance of six miles, good marl is found convenient of access. On the Mingamahone Brook good marl is found from Upper Squankum to the conjunction of said brook with the New Bargain stream, a distance of four and a half miles, and there is so little top soil on this stream above the marl that in many places, for a half-mile back on either side, marl can conveniently be got out anywhere; in fact, the whole land can be dug up. On the





Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of New Bargaintown, upon Manasquan River: "It contains a grist-mill and some half-dozen dwellings, surrounded by a pine forest." The mill is now owned by Henry Layton. On the same stream, farther up, is a grist-mill now called Fairfield Mills, owned by C. R. and James O. Mathews, formerly known as Pipe Longstreth's mill, and still earlier as "ye Leonard's mill," there being several "Leonard's mills" in the country before 1730. Still farther up the stream, and south from Blue Ball, are the Barkalow or Barraelo Mills, which have been in the family over one hundred and fifty years.

BLUE BALL is a small village or settlement on the western line of Howell township, adjoining Freehold, and about three and a half miles south of the court-house. A short distance north of the hamlet is Shumar's Mill, which, in the time of the Revolution, was known as Richmond's Mill. It was there that Colonel Daniel Morgan lay with his famous corps of riflemen during the whole of the day of June 28, 1778, impatiently waiting for orders to move up and take part in the battle of Monmouth.

This settlement as it was in 1834 is described briefly in the "Gazetteer" of that year as follows: "It contains a tavern and store, ten or twelve dwellings, one Presbyterian and one Methodist Church." The Presbyterian Church here referred to stood on the site of the Fairfield Baptist Church. The Methodist Church mentioned was built here nearly a century ago, as will be noticed in the history of that church.

Blue Ball derived its name from the tavern which was erected here about 1800, and was kept by David Conover till 1826. At that time Aaron Brower became the landlord and kept it many years. It is now kept by J. B. Titus. About 1827, John Hall and Ebenezer Scott started a small store; the latter kept it until 1853 and sold to Aaron Combs, who continued several years. The store is now kept by Mrs. E. E. Hall. In 1850, D. C. Perrine

built a store building and established a branch store at this place (his main business being in Freehold). This was kept until 1856, when he sold to John S. Forman, who continued a few years and sold to Francis Patterson, who, in 1868, admitted to partnership his brother, George W. Patterson. The store was afterwards burned, but was rebuilt, and is now owned by Charles H. Brower.

The post-office was established after 1834. John Hall was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by John S. Barton, John L. Corlies, George L. Britton, John C. Patterson, Dr. Isaac N. Beegle and Mrs. E. E. Hall, who still holds the office.

Dr. Richard T. Stoutenburgh, a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, located here in 1846 and practiced a few years, then retired. De Witt W. Barclay settled at this place as a physician in 1847, practiced a number of years and retired to a farm, but after a few years returned to practice and continued till his death, in 1867. Dr. Joseph B. Goodenough came here about 1850 and remained till his removal to Long Branch. Dr. Isaac N. Beegle also settled here. He is now at Ocean Grove. Dr. Harry Neafie recently in practice here, is now located at Freehold.

Adelphia Lodge, No. 65, K. of P., was instituted at Farmingdale, January 15, 1872, and removed to Turkey (Blue Ball), April 15, 1878. Meetings were held for a year in Emmons' wheelwright-shop, and upon the completion of Adelphia Hall, in 1879, the lodge moved to that building. The membership is now about sixty.

THE BETHESDA METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Blue Ball is the most ancient of the churches of that denomination in Monmouth County, dating back more than a century. Being located within about three miles of the village of Monmouth (now Freehold), and being the only Methodist Church in that vicinity (the Freehold Church not being formed until a half-century later), it was for many years known as "the Methodist Church of Monmouth." The Rev. John Atkinson, in his "Memorials of Methodism," says of it,—

main branch of Shark River marl is found from Shaftoe's saw mill down to the river, a distance of about five miles."



"The Methodist Society at Monmouth must have been formed at an early period, probably about 1780, as in that year Job Throckmorton, of Freehold, was converted under the ministry of the Rev. Richard Garretson, and became a member of the society. He was one of the first members in that region. The Methodists were much persecuted there at that time. His house was a home for preachers, and very likely Bishop Asbury was entertained at his dwelling during his visits to Freehold. Everitt, Freeborn Garretson, Ezeziel Cooper, Ware and others were accustomed to stop at his house. He was accustomed to relate incidents of Rev. Benjamin Abbott's powerful ministry, one of which is as follows: 'On one occasion meeting was held in the woods, and after Freeborn Garretson had preached, Abbott arose and looked around over the congregation very significantly, and exclaimed, "Lord, begin the work; Lord, begin the work now; Lord, begin the work just *there*!"' pointing at the same time towards a man who was standing beside a tree, and the man fell as suddenly as if he had been shot and cried for mercy.'"

Of Methodism in Monmouth one hundred years ago (says Major Yard<sup>1</sup>) the records are of the most meagre character. Previous to 1774 the whole State was included in one circuit, supplied by two preachers. That year it was divided into two circuits,—Trenton and Greenwich,—but still there were but two preachers assigned to the State,—William Watters to Trenton Circuit, and Philip Ebert to Greenwich, exchanging at the end of six months with Daniel Ruff and Joseph Yearby, from Chester (Pa.) Circuit. Watters was the first native-born Methodist itinerant in America. Richard Owings, also native-born, was a local preacher before Watters entered the work, but he did not join the traveling connection until after Watters. Freeborn Garretson visited New Jersey in 1779, and doubtless traveled through the State. Greenwich and Trenton Circuits disappear from the Conference Minutes in 1776, and New Jersey and Philadelphia appear as separate circuits until 1779, when they appear that year as one circuit, with Philip Cox, Joshua Dudley and Daniel Ruff as preachers.

The Methodists of this region in 1779 must have been few in number, as there were but one hundred and forty reported in the State. They perhaps formed a society—or a "class,"

as we would now call it—which counted its members scattered through a wide district. Blue Ball may have been a centre for its meetings, and Freehold on its borders. This is probable, for while Methodist meetings were frequently held at the court-house, there was no society in Freehold until about 1833, and the members previous to that time were connected with the society at Blue Ball.

In 1786 Trenton Circuit included Trenton, Pemberton, Mount Holly, Burlington and Monmouth. Revs. Robert Sparks and Robert Cann, preachers. In 1787 the Rev. Ezekiel Cooper and Rev. Nathaniel B. Mills were the preachers. In 1788, Revs. John Merrick, Thomas Morrell and Jetters Johnson, preachers.

The first mention of Freehold Circuit is in the Conference Minutes of 1793, when James Wilson and John Fountain were appointed to the charge. In 1793 Trenton Circuit reported five hundred and six members, while in 1794, after Freehold Circuit was cut off, it reported only one hundred and seventy-four, while Freehold reported four hundred and seventy-seven. This probably included all the Methodists in this section of the State east of Trenton.

In 1782, 1785 and in several later years Bishop Francis Asbury passed through this section, and preached here, being entertained at the houses of Job Throckmorton and Simon Pyle, and perhaps others of the vicinity. The following are extracts from his journals of those tours:

"September 14th, 1782.—I came to New Mills [Pemberton]. I passed through Monmouth in Upper and Lower Freehold. Here lived that old saint of God, William Tennent, who went to his reward a few years ago.

"Friday, Sept. 9th, 1785.—Heard Mr. Woodhull preach a funeral discourse on 'Lord, thou hast made my days as a hand-breadth.' In my judgment, he spoke well.

"Saturday, September 10, 1785.—I had liberty in preaching to the people of Monmouth on Joshua 24: 17, and felt much for the souls present." No doubt Freehold village is here meant, as it was then called Monmouth Court-House, and often simply Monmouth.

"Friday, September 22d, 1786.—We dined at Amboy and reached Monmouth at night.

"Monday, September 5th, 1791.—I rode through much rain to Monmouth, N. J., where I preached to

<sup>1</sup> Major James S. Yard, in an address delivered at the centennial of the Bethesda Church, September 4, 1879.





a considerable congregation on 'The just shall live by faith; but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.'

"October 28th, 1795.—We came to Monmouth; we would have gone to Shrewsbury, but time and our horses failed us. I learn that the ancient spirit of faith and prayer is taking place below. . . . We rode twenty miles to Emley's Church, where the great revival of religion was some years ago. I felt a little of the good old spirit there still.

"May 30th, 1806.—I preached at Lower Freehold. I came home with Simon Pyle. Ah! what a death there is in the Leonard family."

In 1812 the number of members in the Freehold Circuit was seven hundred and thirty-six. In 1813 the Rev. William Mills was sent here as a preacher. Mr. Mills was born in Freehold about 1758; entered the Revolutionary army in 1776; was taken prisoner and sent to England; returned, and in 1799 became a Methodist preacher. He died at the house of Mr. Lippincott, at Long Branch, December 6, 1813.

The exact date of the building of the old church edifice at Blue Ball is not known. A tradition, remembered and related by Mr. John I. Cottrell, runs, that the society here held their first meetings in a barn on the farm adjoining this church, now owned by Jonathan Croxson. This was about one hundred and ten years ago. The timbers that are in the barn now standing on the premises are the same timbers that were in the old barn; it has simply had new siding and a new roof.

Judge Joseph Murphy, of Freehold, born in 1797, remembered that the only building in this section for public worship owned by the Methodists was the one at Blue Ball. The Methodists of Freehold and all the country around, from Keyport and Bethany and Cheesequakes on the east to Bennett's Mills on the south, came here to worship. Among the preachers in early times, he remembered Major Thomas Morrell (an officer of the Continental army, who was wounded at Germantown and Long Island), Thomas Neal, David Bartine, Thomas Stewart, James Long, Joseph Holdich, Isaac Wimper, John K. Shaw, Daniel Fidler, Edward Page, Joseph Lybrand, Charles Pitman and Anthony Atwood. The Quarterly Meetings were were always held here, and were

great gatherings. This was the only Methodist Church organization in the county when he first recollected it. The next society was formed at Long Branch. They built a church at what is now known as Mechanicsville. The third Methodist society was organized at Chapel Hill, in Middletown. From that place it was the custom for the circuit preachers to come to his father's house, at Bethany, on Fridays, and preach. The seats in the church at Blue Ball had no backs and the walls were unplastered. The pulpit was built high up on the wall. The building was very much out of repair. It would seat about one hundred and fifty people, but on Quarterly Meeting occasions a great many more could be crowded in. He remembered that Joseph Goodenough was a leading member of the church when he first knew it.

An amusing incident concerning the old church building at Blue Ball, related by Forman Rogers (born in 1805), is that when he was about five years old, and attending services there with his parents, the preacher appeared in the pulpit with his spectacles on wrong side up, whereupon young Rogers spoke out and called attention to it, which caused a laugh in the congregation. The preacher on this occasion was James Quail, whose name appears as preacher on this circuit in 1812. Mr. Rogers' father, William Rogers, then lived near Freehold, and this was the only Methodist Church in this section. Among those who were members at his first recollection were his father and his grandfather, Richard Rogers, William and Job Throckmorton, Job Clayton, Joseph Haviland (then an old man), Solomon Ketcham and Joseph Goodenough (of Upper Squankum, now Farmingdale), Joseph Patterson, Simon Pyle (at one time a circuit preacher, but at that time living on a farm at Colt's Neck), Negro Bob (a slave of Judge Henderson's, living near what is now West Freehold), Tunis Lane and Henry Timis, Henry Conine and wife, Moses Bennett (of Bennett's Mills), Honce Richmond<sup>1</sup> (then an old man), Mr. Reynolds and wife (from Harmony) and Stephen Barkalow and wife. Mr. Barkalow run the grist-mill here, and was

<sup>1</sup> Said to have been the first Methodist in all this region



grandfather of the late Thomas P. Barkalow, of Freehold. Within the recollection of Mr. Rogers, the old church was ceiled inside with boards; previous to that time it had no other inclosure but cedar weather-boards. The pulpit was raised as high as the galleries of the present church, with a flight of stairs on each side; it was about eight feet long, with a bench running the length of it; the breast of the pulpit was raised so high that only the head and breast of the preacher could be seen by the congregation. In front of the pulpit was a wide altar, with a railing and a kneeling-board covered with a cushion.

The present church was built on the opposite side of the road in the old cemetery lot. The corner-stone of the church was laid June 7, 1849. The building was finished in the following spring, and was dedicated April 11, 1850. The ministers who have served the church since 1874 are as follows: 1874-75, T. D. Sleeper; 1876-7, A. M. Lake; 1878 to 1880, E. Hutchins; 1881, J. J. Graw; 1882 to 1884, R. B. Steverson.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT LOWER TURKEY (now Fairfield) was in existence in 1828, when a church edifice was erected on the site of the present Baptist Church. The Rev. William Woodhull was in charge. It was discontinued about 1840, and the building was finally sold to Charles Butcher, who is now using it as a barn. About 1857, Austin H. Patterson, then in the Legislature, succeeded in getting a bill passed authorizing the people of the district to decide, by a two-thirds vote, to which denomination the church lot should pass. The vote gave it to the Baptists, and the trustees of the Presbyterian Church conveyed it to the trustees of the Baptist Church, who soon after erected the present Baptist Church building upon it.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HOWELL was organized November 10, 1859, by twenty-eight members of the Baptist Church at Freehold, residing in and contiguous to the village of Fairfield (formerly called Lower Turkey), and on the following September 7, 1860, it was duly recognized as properly organized by a council

of Baptist ministers and laymen from various surrounding churches. On January 22, 1861, they elected as deacons the following persons: Abraham Havens, Sr., Abraham Havens, Jr., Charles Butcher and Jonathan C. Croxson. Abraham H. Croxson was chosen clerk, and Levi G. Irwin treasurer. The trustees elected were Charles Butcher, Levi G. Irwin, Abraham Havens, Jonathan C. Croxson, Oliver Huff, James Donahoy and Job Cottrell. In October, 1860, the Rev. Henry Westcott became their first pastor.

Religious services, thus far, were held in a school-house at Fairfield. Opposite this house was an old dilapidated Presbyterian meeting-house. Attached to it was a graveyard, in which were buried many of those who died years ago. The graves were exposed to intrusion and desecration. The fence was broken down and the mounds left to the ravages of time, and the hoofs of cattle trod on earth sacred to the memory of the departed. The old church building was fast falling into ruins. The pews had fallen down, the galleries in their unfinished state looked bare and the stamp of ruin seemed placed on every part of the building.

Those who had friends buried in the graveyard felt a strong aversion to the condition of the ground and a desire to render it secure from vandal intrusion; hence citizens of the community drew up a petition to the Legislature of the State, requesting that body to give authority to sell the house thus neglected, and devote the proceeds to build a fence around the graveyard, and coupled with the proviso that the ground be given to any religious evangelical denomination which would engage to build a house of worship thereon (having first obtained the assent of at least two-thirds of the district in which the cemetery was located). This petition was presented by the member of the Legislature then residing in the township of Howell, and the bill passed the Legislature.

The newly-organized church realized their favorable chance to procure the lot, and having obtained a requisite number of names of the resident citizens, the property was secured to the Baptist denomination, subject to the proviso that they should erect thereon a house of wor-







ship. The grant being secured, the inhabitants of Fairfield soon erected on the premises a neat and commodious meeting-house, which was dedicated August 14, 1861. They also repaired, fenced and adorned the old graveyard.

Twenty-five years have passed since the organization of the church at Fairfield and the erection of their meeting-house. Within that time the church has had the following pastors: Henry Westcott, David B. Jutten, Asa C. Bronson, Asa J. Wilcox, C. G. Gurr, Edwin S. Brown, William Archer and Henry Westcott, the present pastor.

Besides services held in the church at Fairfield, the pastor officiates in Jerseyville, Pleasant Grove and Fort Plains, in school-houses, to encouraging congregations, and the congregation at Fairfield is comparatively large and attentive, thus affording hope relative to the future. In April, 1884, a lot was purchased adjoining the church, and on it a parsonage has been erected.

The officers of the church are as follows: Pastor, Rev. Henry Westcott; Deacons, Levi G. Irwin, John Dillatash, James H. Butcher; Church Clerk, Horatio Croxson; Treasurer, Levi G. Irwin; Trustees, Levi G. Irwin, John Dillatash, James S. Morris, A. H. Patterson, James H. Butcher.

**BETHEL** is comparatively a new settlement, located in the southwest part of the township. Here, in 1865, a lot was donated by Israel Reynolds, on which to erect a Methodist Church. It was built in 1866. The Rev. Samuel Asa was the first pastor. The present pastor is the Rev. S. M. Hilliard. The church has about seventy-five members. About 1870 a school-house was erected. In 1872, Henry H. Williams opened a store, and in 1882, John T. Reynolds also opened a store and was appointed postmaster of the office named "Southard," which was established at that time.

**JERSEYVILLE**, in the northwest corner of Howell township, is a small hamlet which, prior to 1854, was known as "Green Grove." On Saturday evening, June 3d, in that year, the inhabitants of the neighborhood met at the

house of John I. Cottrell, for the purpose of adopting a different name for the place. R. V. Lawrence was called to the chair, and Nason Borden was chosen secretary. By a vote of the meeting, the place was then given its present name,—Jerseyville.

In 1849 a school-house was erected here, in which Methodist worship was held at times, until the completion of the Methodist Church edifice, the corner-stone of which was laid in the fall of 1869. The lot was donated by Sidney Hampton. The society was organized at about the same time. The church building cost four thousand two hundred and forty dollars, and was dedicated January 19, 1872. The church at this place is under care of the neighboring churches of the denomination.

"Our House" is a tavern-stand on the road leading from Blue Ball to Farmingdale. It was first built as a store, but was opened as a tavern over seventy years ago. In 1841 it was kept by John Mariner, and later by Samuel Naylor, John Wheeler and (from 1851 to 1881) by John Antonides. It is now kept by T. H. Clayton.

THE "INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH" of Howell was in existence more than a century ago. On the 22d of February, 1808, John F. Longstreet, living near where now stands "Our House" tavern, between Blue Ball and Farmingdale, sold a lot of land to Zenas Conger and others for the use of the Independent Methodist Church Society. On this a house of worship was commenced, but was never finished. Services were held in the woods near by, with preaching by Zenas Conger, Matthias Barkalow and others. The place was abandoned after a few years. When the transfer of the property of the Independent Methodist Church was made to the Methodist Protestant Church, about 1850, this lot was also conveyed to the latter, who sold it in 1858, and the proceeds were used in the erection of the Methodist Protestant Church at Hopeville.

**SCHOOLS OF HOWELL TOWNSHIP.**—In 1847 the township contained twenty-one school districts. By the erection of Wall township, in



1850, from part of Howell, the number was reduced to fourteen, and in 1851 to nine districts. The township now contains twelve districts and one thousand and sixteen children of school age. The school property is valued at thirteen thousand three hundred dollars.

Blue Ball District, No. 101, contains eighty-three children of school age. In this locality the first school-house stood adjoining the old church on the opposite side of the road from the present Bethesda Church. It was built about 1820. On May 1, 1841, A. Simpson, John Hall, Jesse Cowdrick, Abram Ackerson and Thomas Croxson, school trustees, leased for twenty years of Miles Cooper a lot containing one-quarter of an acre of land, "on the north side of the road leading from Blue Ball to Mariner's tavern" ("Our House"). To this lot the old house was removed, and it is still in use.

Jerseyville District, No. 102, contains one hundred and sixteen children of school age. For many years there stood, a short distance from the village, a log school-house, which was kept in use till the present brick school-house was erected, in 1849.

Turkey District, No. 103, has now eighty-seven school children. A school-house was built about 1835 nearly on the site of the present one at Fairfield Haven. It was fifteen by sixteen feet in size, and is now a carriage-shed at the Baptist parsonage. A new school-house (the present one) was built about 1855. The old house was used until this was built.

Farmingdale District, No. 104, has one hundred and seventy-nine school children. The first school-house in this locality was built before 1800 on land now owned by Samuel Brewer. The last school taught there was in 1828; Jasper Cooper was the last teacher. A new house was built in 1829 on a vacant lot adjoining the present Methodist Church, and was used till 1838, when it was rebuilt. In May of that year it was advertised that at the "new school-house in Upper Squankum" there were thirty-five scholars then attending school, and that a teacher was wanted. In September, 1870, it was decided to erect a new school-house, at a cost of six thousand dollars. The present site

was then purchased, and the building erected and dedicated in March, 1871.

Fort Plain District, No. 105, was formerly, and for many years, known as the White District. Over eighty years ago a lot of four acres was donated from the Parker tract, and on it a school-house was built, in the woods. In early days, children from Blue Ball, West Farms and Bennett's Mills attended here. The house was eighteen by twenty-six feet in size, and was used in its original condition until 1879, when it was rebuilt. Between 1835 and 1840, Messrs. Figgins, Bishop and Ewer were teachers. The district now contains forty-five children of school age.

West Farms District, No. 106, has now sixty-seven scholars. In this locality, on a site near the present residence of James Johnson, an old school-house stood, when, in 1857, the present house was erected on the McGill estate. It had been erected a school district, but for some reason was abolished in 1860, and again erected into the present district.

Squankum District, No. 107, has now eighty-nine school children. A school-house was built near this place in 1839, as in December of that year Stephen M. Disbrow, Joseph Tilton and E. B. Wainwright, as trustees, advertised for a teacher at "Lower Squankum new School-House." The old house is standing (unoccupied) on the road from Squankum to Farmingdale. The present house was built on land of T. Brittan, in 1879.

Bethel District, No. 108, has one hundred and eight scholars. About 1870 a school-house was erected at this settlement.

Greenville District, No. 109, lies on the line between Monmouth and Ocean Counties. The school-house is on the Monmouth side. It was built many years ago, and was used also for religious worship until the church near it was erected. The district contains ninety-six children of school age. This was formerly known as "Brewer's."

Morris District, No. 110, has forty-eight pupils. The school-house was built at this place in 1850.

North Farmingdale District, No. 111, has fifty-two school children. This house was built on land of James Fitzcroft in 1856.





Bedford District, No. 112, has now forty-six school children. The lot on which the school-house stands was donated by J. S. Partrick in 1862, and the house was built in that year.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Millstone was erected in 1844 by an act of the Legislature, passed on the 28th of February in that year, declaring

"That all that part of the townships of Upper Freehold and Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, and of the township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, lying within the boundaries and descriptions following, to wit: Beginning in the middle of the Mount Holly road, near Asher Smith's tavern,<sup>1</sup> and where the road to Preston's factory strikes the same; in the township of Freehold; thence running along the middle of the road leading from the said Smith's tavern to Hannah Clayton's Inn, to where the public roads cross near the said Inn;<sup>2</sup> thence following the middle of the public road northerly to a point opposite the dwelling-house of William Osborn; thence north, twenty-nine degrees west, to the county line between Monmouth and Middlesex; thence westerly in a direct line through the township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, to the bridge over the Millstone brook, on the public road near Daniel D. Reed's dwelling-house; thence down the middle of the said Millstone brook until it reaches the county line between Mercer and Middlesex, at or near the head of Peter Wikoff's mill-pond; thence southerly, following the said county line, to the Monmouth County line; thence southwesterly following the said Monmouth County line, to the bridge over the Assanpink brook and the York road; thence up the middle of the said brook easterly, till it strikes the bridge on the land of Joseph L. Ely, son of Isaac Ely, deceased, in the middle of the new road leading from Hightstown to Britton's tavern, sometimes called the stone tavern; thence southerly in a direct line to a point in the public road one rod west of said Britton tavern; thence running, as the needle now points, south six degrees and thirty minutes east, over Sugar Loaf Hill, to the Ivanhoe or north branch of Lahaway Creek; thence up the middle of said Ivanhoe to its head, at a spring near the late residence of Isaac Carr, deceased; thence a due east course to the Mount Holly road; thence northeasterly along the middle of the said Mount Holly

road to the place of beginning, shall be, and hereby is, set off from the townships of Upper Freehold and Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, and Monroe, in the county of Middlesex, and made a separate township, to be called and known by the name of 'The Township of Millstone.'"

By a further provision of the act, all that part of Monroe township which had been thus included in the new township of Millstone was taken from Middlesex County and annexed to Monmouth (as before mentioned); but this change of jurisdiction being found to be unsatisfactory to the people, it was restored to Middlesex in the following year by an act of Assembly. Two years later, however, an act was passed giving to Millstone, and to Monmouth County, a small triangular piece of the territory of Monroe township, lying to the southward of a line "to begin at the point in the Middlesex and Mercer County line where the middle of the public road leading from Milford by way of Disborough's northwest corner to Perrineville crosses the same, and thence along the middle of the said road an easterly course till it strikes the present Middlesex and Monmouth County line; the residue of the northern boundary line of the township of Millstone remaining as heretofore."

In the same year that Millstone was erected a new township was also formed from parts of Freehold, Upper Freehold and Dover, and named "Jackson," in honor of ex-President Andrew Jackson. This township, which is now entirely in the county of Ocean, embraced, at its formation, a small part of what is now Millstone township, north of the present county line of Ocean and Monmouth. That part was annexed to Millstone by an act passed in 1846.

Millstone is one of the townships lying on the northwest border of Monmouth County, its boundary in that direction being formed by the counties of Mercer and Middlesex. On the northeast it is bounded by the township of Manalapan, on the southeast by Freehold township and Ocean County and on the south and southwest by Upper Freehold. There are no large streams in Millstone township. The Assanpink Creek, here flowing in an easterly course, forms a part of the boundary between Upper Freehold and Millstone; Rocky Brook

<sup>1</sup> Now Smithville.

<sup>2</sup> Now Manalapanville.



flows northwesterly from this township into Mercer and Middlesex counties, and finally enters Millstone River. Another tributary of the same river is Millstone Creek, which flows northwardly from this township into Middlesex; and Lahaway Creek flows from the southern corner of Millstone township into Upper Freehold, where it joins the main stream of Crosswicks Creek. Millstone township has no railway line within its limits. The population of the township, by the United States census of 1880, was two thousand and eighty.

Following is a list of the chosen freeholders of Millstone township, from its erection to the present time, viz :

- 1844-45. Thomas M. Perrine.
- 1844. Hartshorne Tantum.
- 1845. Paul Morris.
- 1846-50. Charles Allen.
- 1846-47. George Gravatt.
- 1848. Paul Morris.
- 1849. Elias C. Clayton.
- 1850. Isaac C. Hatch.
- 1851-53. John B. Robins.
- 1854-55. James I. Ely.
- 1856. James M. Smith.
- 1857-59. Thomas S. Gravatt.
- 1860-62. Thomas Baird.
- 1863-67. Charles Allen.
- 1868-72. Elias C. Clayton.
- 1873-74. Samuel Gravatt.
- 1875-77. Aaron L. Eldridge.
- 1878-80. David Baird.
- 1881-83. Morgan Wright.
- 1884. George J. Ely.

THE VILLAGE OF PERRINEVILLE is situated in the northern central part of Millstone township, on Rocky Brook.

The first store at this place was established by a man from New England before 1825, on the site of the Moffat Perrine store. In 1825 the father of Governor William A. Newell opened a store on the east side of the brook, and in 1832 he was succeeded by William Snowhill, a son-in-law of David Perrine. After two or three years he abandoned the business, and John D. Perrine opened a store on the west side of the brook, in the old academy building, but kept it only a year or two. In 1836, William Mount built a store building and occupied it for several years.

The grist-mill at Perrineville was first built by — Newell, and was owned by David Perrine in 1830, at which time the place took its name. In 1835 the mill was sold to John M. Perrine, who operated it until 1850, when it was purchased by Nelson Silvers. It is now owned by Charles Allen.

Soon after the building of the grist-mill, a saw-mill was built below it, on the stream, by Moffat Perrine. The mill remained in possession of the Perrine family until 1882.

The first hotel at Perrineville was opened by Ezekiel Davison in 1842, and was kept by him for about ten years. The present hotel was opened about 1850 by Joseph C. Thompson, who was succeeded by George Ely and Paul Talman, the latter of whom is still its proprietor.

A classical school was opened by the Rev. William Woodhull soon after he took charge of the Presbyterian Church, in 1826. He erected a school building on the east side of the brook, adjoining the parsonage, and in that building he taught the school until about 1830, but not later. At this school William A. Newell (since Governor of New Jersey), Nathaniel S. Rue and D. C. Perrine (now of Freehold) were among the pupils of Mr. Woodhull.

In the fall of 1877 the Rev. George W. McMillan, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Millstone, opened a preparatory school near the parsonage. It has been continued with success to the present time, having had an average of twenty pupils attending.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MILLSTONE, though a little less than sixty years old in its organization, properly dates back to the year 1785, when the Rev. Dr. John Woodhull, pastor of Tennent Church, employed Joseph Clark, a student of theology under him, to conduct regular religious services at Perrineville. He continued to labor there until 1788, when he was settled pastor over the Presbyterian Church of Allentown, from which time Perrineville was supplied with preaching by the pastors of Tennent, Cranbury and Allentown Presbyterian Churches until 1826. During Mr. Clark's ministry, from 1788 to 1796, a plat of ground was purchased and a house of worship





erected, commenced, "but inasmuch as sufficient funds could not be raised," says Judge William P. Forman, "the church could not be finished, and stayed in that state for some forty years. It was inclosed, a pulpit erected, and temporary seats arranged by boards being laid on blocks. It was not so large, but was patterned after the mother-church, the pulpit being in the north side. Preaching was kept up for many years by Mr. Woodhull, once in every four weeks, on Friday. A goodly number generally attended. Frequently ministers of other orthodox denominations, by consent, occupied the pulpit on Sabbath and at other times, mostly Methodists, many of them much to the edification of the people. This state of things continued until 1826, when the church received a new impulse. A congregation was organized, the church remodeled, enlarged and finished, and a minister called and established. Between that time and the remodeling and enlarging of the church edifice, 1856, regular worship and preaching were supported, a number of ministers at different times having presided." After the repairs and remodeling of 1856 the edifice was dedicated October 2d, in that year. It was then in use until January 6, 1884, when it was entirely destroyed by fire. It was rebuilt at a cost of six thousand dollars, and was dedicated, free of debt, December 18, 1884. The building is fifty by seventy, with Sunday-school rooms attached, and is finished in light wood. Thomas Perrine's sons contributed the bell, and also the Bible and hymn-book for the pulpit. The pulpit desk, made of carved and polished walnut, is the gift of Mr. D. C. Perrine, of Freehold.

In 1826 the Presbytery of New Brunswick organized a church, with thirteen members, as the Presbyterian Church of Upper Freehold, but the name was soon after changed to Millstone. The church has a present membership of one hundred and twelve and a thriving Sunday-school.

The following-named ministers have served as pastors of this church, viz. :

William Woodhull, installed September 6, 1826; dismissed May 7, 1832.

L. S. Beebe, installed September 16, 1834; dismissed November 8, 1836.

William S. Betts, installed June 13, 1838; dismissed August 25, 1840.

Charles F. Worrell,<sup>1</sup> D.D., installed April 2, 1842; dismissed March 9, 1867.

Daniel F. Lockerby, installed July 13, 1869; dismissed September 9, 1871.

George W. McMillan, installed November 1, 1873.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CONGREGATION AT PERRINEVILLE was first organized, in 1871, by the rector of the Catholic congregation at Freehold, Rev. Frederick Kivelitz. Mass was said once a month, on Sundays, and religious instruction given to the young once a week in a private house. In 1879 a brick and terra-cotta church, of Gothic design, thirty by fifty-five feet, capable of seating two hundred and fifty persons, was erected. In 1880 the rector resigned his charge, together with another one he held at Jamesburg, N. J., in favor of a new priest, the Rev. Joseph Ruesing, who settled at Jamesburg, and from there attended the church at Perrineville every week. In July, 1884, he resigned his charge, and no new appointment has yet been made.

THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSBURG is situated in the western part of Millstone township. Near the site of this village the old "Willow-Tree Tavern" was a well-known stand in the early years of the present century. Mention of it is found under date of January, 1815, as "the Willow-Tree Tavern, owned by Aaron Eldridge, formerly by Hartshorne Tantum, situated on the main road leading from Philadelphia to Long Branch, eight miles from Allentown and twelve from Monmouth Court-House, in the occupation of Joseph Jerman." In the period from 1829 to 1834 it was kept by Peter Johnson and William Hankin. In the latter year it was discontinued as a tavern, and the present Clarksburg Hotel was erected and opened as a public-house by John Clayton. Afterwards Stephen Clayton was its proprietor. It is now kept by Henry Britton.

At Clarksburg, about 1820, John J. Ely opened a store, which, in 1829, was kept by Addison Mount. It stood where the hay-scales

<sup>1</sup>The Rev. Dr. Worrell died at Perrineville, January 27th, aged seventy-seven years.



now stand. A few years later Sheriff Charles Allen built the present store building. A store is now kept at this place by P. Elmer.

The Clarksburg post-office was established when Addison Mount was keeping the store, and he was appointed postmaster. His successors have been David Bowman, Charles Allen, Thomas Gravatt, James Snediker and the present postmaster, Mrs. Renben G. Strahan.

THE METHODIST CHURCH AT CLARKSBURG was organized before 1845, and in that year (August 23d) David Bowman sold to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clarksburg a half-acre of land to build thereon a church edifice. It was located half a mile west of the Willow-Tree Tavern. A church was soon after erected, and services have been held in the house with some regularity since that time. The pulpit is supplied by pastors from other churches having this in charge.

THE MANALAPAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was organized in 1856. In the preceding year the people living in the vicinity of Manalapanville (which is a small village situated on the line between Millstone and Manalapan townships) began the erection of a church building, and, in July of that year, several members of the First Church of Millstone petitioned the Presbytery of New Brunswick for the organization of a new church. This was granted, and the organization of the church and the dedication of the new building were concluded at the same time (July 31, 1856), the services on that occasion being conducted by the Rev. Dr. Henry, who had also led in the ceremony of the laying of the corner-stone of the church, on the 10th of October, 1855. In the spring of 1857 the Rev. John L. Kehoo was called to the pastorate, and he was installed on the 30th of June following. He remained pastor of the church until April 26, 1874, when he resigned on account of failing health. His successor was the Rev. George Warrington, who was installed pastor December 16, 1874, and continued until 1879. On the 1st of August, 1880, the Rev. Daniel Laughlin, a recent graduate of Princeton College, was ordained and installed pastor of this church, and he is still (November, 1884) in charge. The

church has now a membership of two hundred and eighty.

BERKSVILLE, in Millstone township, has its name from John Berke, who, more than half a century ago, was located at that place, and keeping a tavern which has been continued to the present time, and is now kept by Abram Jameson. A store has been kept at the place at different times.

"Carr's Tavern" is a place where a public house has been kept for nearly a hundred years. The place derived its name from Elisha Carr, who was the landlord fifty years ago. William Holman, the present proprietor, has kept it since 1864. Joseph De Bow has a store at this place. On a stream near it the De Bows have operated saw-mills for one hundred and thirty years.

BURNT TAVERN, in Millstone township, is an old and well-known stand, where, as early as the beginning of this century, was a house which was burned before 1806. It was rebuilt and named Burnt Tavern, and a sign was raised on which was painted a picture of a house with flames issuing from the windows. It was kept in early days by Dye, Jewell, William Brotherton and others. Later, it was owned by Asher Morse, who kept it for a time, then rented it to different ones, among whom were Jacob Dennis, Charles Potts and Henry H. Wolcott, a son-in-law of Morse, who also kept a store in the house. In 1847 he closed this tavern and rented the house now known as Charleston Springs Hotel (then kept as a store by Wolsey Baldwin), opened it as a hotel and kept it till his death, a few years ago. In 1880 the property was purchased by Joseph C. Thompson, who now keeps the hotel.

SCHOOLS OF MILLSTONE.—The township is divided into eight school districts, which contain seven hundred and forty-seven children of school age. The school property is valued at six thousand dollars.

On the 21st of December, 1845, William Hutchinson conveyed to the trustees of schools of Millstone, for a period of one hundred and ninety-nine years, a lot, then described as "near the house where Joseph Gravatt now lives."





The terms of this lease were that the trustees were to erect a school-house on it and "to finish said house within the term of twelve months from this date, and to keep it in good and complete repair for a school to learn children to read, write and cipher, and said house shall be used occasionally for preaching or Public worship. . . . Said trustees are not to cut or cause to be cut any timber on said land." The house then built stood on the county line between Monmouth and Mercer Counties, at the place where the Hightstown and Perrineville turnpike crosses it. The old building has long since disappeared.

Fairplay School District, No. 24, in Millstone, contains seventy children of school age. The first school-house in this locality was erected over a hundred years ago on land now owned by Thomas Kilty. It was abandoned more than seventy-five years ago. A school-house was built about 1812 on land owned by Joseph Storey, which was used many years, and not abandoned until the formation of the present district. This was the house at which pupils from Perrineville and adjacent points attended. About 1845 the Rev. Charles Worrell, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Manalapan, urged the building of a school at that place, which was done. This caused the people of this section to petition for the formation of a new district, which was granted, and it was named "Fairplay." Soon afterwards, and before 1847, the present school-house was erected. The lot was donated by Abijah Mount. Judge Wm. P. Forman was an early teacher in this house.

Church District, No. 25, now contains one hundred and thirty-one children of school age. Shortly after the Rev. Charles Worrell assumed the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church at Perrineville, he urged the people to erect a school-house. The children then attended at the Storey school-house, some distance away, and the private schools and academy, the latter of which had then been abandoned. A large two-story frame school-house was erected in the grove near the Presbyterian Church, and it was also used as a session-room for the church. It was occupied at that place until its removal to its present site, in August, 1884.

In Manalapan District, No. 26, the first school-house stood about three hundred yards north from the west end of the mill-dam on the Reed farm. Judge William P. Forman attended school there in 1817, and says it was then an old house. It was abandoned about 1835, and another one was built about half a mile from it, on the south side of the road leading to Hightstown. This was used about ten years, when difficulties arose and the present district, and also Grove District, were formed. The present house was erected about 1846.

Sweetman Lane District, No. 27, has seventy-nine children of school age. Within the bounds of the present district a school-house was standing in 1806 on the farm now owned by Samuel Gravatt. In that year Mrs. Mary McKnight (now eighty-four years of age) attended school there, and she says it was then an old house. It was destroyed by fire in 1829. Of the teachers in that house were Joseph Johnston, Charles Smith and Prentiss B. Emory. About 1830 the present school-house was built on half an acre of land, donated for school purposes by Mr. Johnson. Of early teachers in this house were Prentiss B. Emory, Judge William P. Forman (in 1835) William R. Wilson and Harriet Pittinger.

Grove District, No. 28 has one hundred and three children of school age. The school-house stands on the road leading from Bergen Mills to Hightstown, and was built about 1846, when the new district was formed. It is partly in Millstone township and partly in Middlesex County. At the time the school-house was built it was in Millstone township, but it is now in Middlesex County.

De Bow School District, No. 29, has one hundred children of school age. Three school-houses have stood within one hundred yards of the present site. The first was built before 1820, and was destroyed about 1830. A new house was soon after built, which stood until 1879, when it was torn down and the present house was erected.

Clarksburg School District, No. 30, has ninety-six children of school age. As early as 1815 a school-house was erected about half a mile northwest of the Willow-Tree Tavern.



School was taught in it by William W. Williams. It was used many years. A school-house was erected on the present site, near the Methodist Church, about 1850.

**Burnt Tavern School.**—After the destruction of the old school-house on the Burnt Tavern road, a portion of the children went to Sweetman Lane School. A school also was opened in the house of Dr. Harvey Baldwin, near the present hotel. In 1838 a school-house was erected and used till 1868, when it was moved away and the present one erected upon the site.

**Union School District, No. 38,** contains eighty-one children of school age. This school-house was erected about 1830. It has since been repaired, and is still used.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

**WILLIAM P. FORMAN.**—**Ex-Judge** William P. Forman was born in the township of Upper Freehold (now Millstone) on the 25th day of January, 1807, where he still resides. He represents the fifth generation from the pioneer, John Foreman, who arrived from Scotland in the year 1685, and settled near Freehold, the letter "e" having since, by general consent, been stricken out in spelling the name. Judge Forman's father was Peter, his mother's maiden-name being Rebecca Ely, who was closely connected with the extensive family of that name now residing in the county. From boyhood he was of an inquiring mind, aspiring to the acquisition of useful knowledge. He was, however, obliged to satisfy his aspirations by attending the district schools in youth, a portion of the time in the winter season only, except when a student of a grammar school in the neighborhood for a brief period. The remainder of the time he was engaged at ordinary farm labor. He became a good mathematician, and mastered the theory of surveying, which he practiced in after-life with a considerable degree of success, as also that of conveyancer. He was frequently employed in the settlement of estates and in other business. In the mean time, having purchased real estate in the neighborhood, he became absorbed in the occupations of an agricul-

turist. The most useful knowledge he acquired was by practical observation of the laws of cause and effect, being at the same time careful to put into operation any well-digested idea that did not involve greater outlay than he could safely control. When young, he was passionately fond of military life, and was connected with the old militia system and held the offices of lieutenant, adjutant and major. The system was not fostered by public opinion, and could not be conducted creditably; therefore he promptly resigned. When in his twenty-first year Judge Forman became interested in affairs of a religious nature, and believed it to be his privilege and duty to number himself with the people of God. He therefore connected himself with what was then called the Second Presbyterian Church of Upper Freehold (now the First Presbyterian Church of Millstone), under the pastoral care of Rev. William H. Woodhull, a lineal descendant of Rev. John Woodhull, D.D. He remained simply a member until 1841, and was then appointed a ruling elder, in which capacity he served for about fifteen years. He was, at that date, dismissed to join the Manalapan Church, on its organization, August 1, 1856, in the erection of which edifice he had taken a very lively interest. He became, and is still, one of its first ruling elders, and is the only survivor of the original number. He also became presiding trustee and filled the office for twenty-seven consecutive years, when he resigned on account of advancing years.

On the 12th day of March, 1828, Judge Forman married Miss Evelina Baird, a daughter of Captain David Baird, by whom he had four children, viz.: John (who died in infancy), Fransinchy Rebecca, Mary Elizabeth and Peter, still living. His wife died November 26, 1883, in her seventy-ninth year. Mrs. Forman was an affectionate wife and an indulgent and kind mother, highly appreciated by all who knew her. From 1829 until 1832, Judge Forman taught school, and has the satisfaction of remembering that most of the few gray-headed men and women now left were once his scholars; not many, however, remain, some of them having occupied high positions both in church and state, and one, at least, having been Governor of





the State. The judge evinced some taste for politics, and was often called upon to preside at primary meetings and conventions of the people. He was chief marshal at the great gathering on the Monmouth battle-ground, when many years ago visited by Colonel Richard M. Johnson. Among the township offices, he has held the position of assessor at different times in two distinct townships. He served in the State Legislature for several years, and afterwards, in 1843, was appointed a judge of Monmouth Court of Com-

1838, received a thorough academic education and became proficient as a surveyor and conveyancer. He has filled the office of assessor of his township for years and represented his district in the State Legislature. A man of integrity, he is universally esteemed in the county.

DAVID BAIRD.—David Baird, the great-grandfather of Mr. Baird, born October 19, 1710, married Sarah Compton, whose birth occurred April 18, 1716. Among their children



*Wm. P. Forman*

mon Pleas for the term of five years. He was appointed again in 1852 for a like term, and also in 1857 for the same length of time, and again in 1862 for five years, making a period of twenty years' service. He has since transacted considerable public business, but has recently retired from active life and now lives quietly on the homestead, his chief desire being to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with the Lord his God. Peter Forman, the only son of Judge Forman, was born December 2,

was John, born October 27, 1750, who owned the property on which the subject of this sketch resides; and David, born July 16, 1754. The latter was three times married. His last wife was Mary Edwards, born about 1771, and married on the 25th of November, 1795. Their children are David, born in 1797; Rei, born in 1798; Elizabeth, in 1800; Thomas, February 6, 1802; Ann, in 1803; Evelina, in 1805; Joseph, in 1807; James, in 1810; Rachel, in 1812; Eleanor, in 1815; and Zebulon, in 1819.



Thomas married Eleanor T., daughter of Peter Bilyeu and Maria, his wife, of Upper Freehold. Their children are David and Jonathan (twins), the latter of whom died in infancy, and Sarah, wife of John E. Hunt, born March 20, 1833. The birth of David Baird (the fourth of the name) occurred on the 21st of August, 1829, in Millstone township, from whence he, in 1842, removed with his parents to the farm which is his present residence. He received early advan-

11, 1860, deceased; Isaac, November 11, 1861, deceased; Howard, February 16, 1863; Carrie, March 27, 1865; Henry Leslie, November 28, 1867, deceased; David, February 16, 1869; and John H., February 7, 1872. Mr. Baird, for a brief period following his marriage, engaged in general farming, but devoted his attention particularly to the growing of small fruits. In 1869 he embarked in the nursery business, and, though making a specialty of fruit and



*David Baird*

tages at the common schools of the township, later becoming a pupil of O. R. Willis, at Hightstown, and subsequently at the Freehold Institute. Returning to the farm, he assisted in its cultivation, and on the 9th of December, 1852, was married to Mary E., eldest daughter of Isaac Pullen, of East Windsor, Mercer County, N. J. Their children are Emerson P., born October 11, 1853; Sarah H., July 9, 1855; C. Augustus, May 15, 1857; Thomas, January 2, 1859, deceased; Millie, September

ornamental trees, devotes much time to floriculture. He finds a ready market for the productions of the nursery, the principal shipments being made to Maryland and Delaware. Mr. Baird, though interested in the political issues of the day as they affect his township and county, has manifested little desire for office. He has, however, as a Republican, served for three years as chosen freeholder, and also as assessor. He was also actively identified with measures for the prosecution of the late war.





He is a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, of the New Jersey State Horticultural Society, and of the American Horticultural Society, and life member of the American Pomological Society. Mr. Baird is also actively interested in religious work and is an elder in the Manalapan Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Baird is also a member.

**JAMES MONROE SMITH.**--John Smith, the grandfather of James Monroe Smith, a Quaker

Sarah A., deceased; Mary, deceased (Mrs. Lewis Parker); Lucy, deceased (Mrs. John Segoine); Elizabeth (Mrs. Enoch Ely); Pierson, deceased; Margaret, (Mrs. John G. Mount); James Monroe; John M.; William M.; and Joseph, deceased. James Monroe, of this number, was born February 12, 1821, and in 1824 removed with his father to Smithburg, the latter having purchased at this point the hotel property which had been in possession of the Parker family for many years, and was then



*James Monroe Smith*

by birth, resided in Holmdel, then Middletown township, where he followed the trade of a millwright. He was three times married. By his union to Margaret Ogden were born two sons, Samuel and Asher. The last named, a native of Holmdel, was formerly a successful farmer, and later a landlord at Smithburg, Millstone township, where his intelligence and character enabled him to wield an extended influence. He married Ann Pierson, daughter of John Pierson, of Trenton, N. J. Their children are

owned by Charles Parker, father of ex-Governor Joel Parker. James Monroe Smith received a common-school training, and afterward aided in the cultivation of a tract of six hundred acres of land, owned by his father. Here he continued to be industriously employed, meanwhile acquiring a thorough knowledge of farming, until 1850, when, on the 5th of November of that year, he was married to Leah E., daughter of Daniel Slack, of Perrineville, Millstone township, and granddaughter of Thomas



Slaek, who married Rachel Swain, born May 27, 1767, daughter of Daniel Swain, born December 1, 1742. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith are Frank, deceased; Daniel Pierson, Thomas A., James Monroe, Carrie M. and William M. Mr. Smith purchased and removed to a part of the homestead farm, which he cultivated until 1871, when his present attractive property, formerly the Slaek homestead, was secured. Here he has since resided, and continued the healthful pursuits of a farmer.

and is a director of the Freehold and Smithburg Turnpike Company. He is also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. Both he and Mrs. Smith are connected by membership with the Manalapan Presbyterian Church, of which he is one of the trustees.

CHARLES ALLEN.—John Allen, the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, was by trade a carpenter, and pursued his craft



*Charles Allen*

He has been identified to some extent with the township and its interests, as freeholder for a period of three years, and as township committeeman for ten years. His loyalty was manifested during the late Rebellion, in great personal exertion made to fill the quota for the township, when a heavy individual responsibility was incurred, and the crisis met with a courage worthy the most exalted patriotism. Mr. Smith was among the incorporators of the Monmouth County Mutual Insurance Company,

successfully in Monmouth and Burlington Counties. He married Elizabeth Haley, whose children were William, Edward, John, Isaiah, Mary Jane, Elizabeth, Susan and Margaret. Edward was born August 14, 1793, and married Sarah Johnson, daughter of John and Elizabeth Ketchum Johnson, of Howell township. Their children are Charles, born October 18, 1815; William, August 10, 1817; Elizabeth, January 14, 1820; John, May 14, 1821; James, July 20, 1824 and Eunice E., October





24, 1828. The birth of Charles occurred at Blue Ball, in Howell township, from whence he, in his youth, removed with his parents to Prospertown, in Upper Freehold township, and became a pupil of the district school of that locality. In youth he engaged as clerk for Thomas Miller in the mercantile business near Prospertown, and two years later removed to Cassville with the same gentleman, finally returning again to Howell township as clerk for William and Aaron Remsen, at Butcher's Works. Two years later he became clerk for Riee Hadsell and Jacob and William McClain, at Red Bank, in Monmouth County, and after leaving Red Bank went to New York City as clerk for Joseph W. Brick, who was the proprietor of Bergen Iron-Works. From thence he returned to Cassville as assistant in his father's store. Mr. Allen was, on the 28th of September, 1841, married to Hannah W., daughter of Captain Ephraim Potter, of Tom's River, N. J., and the following October was elected sheriff of Monmouth County, which office he held for three years and resided in the town of Freehold. When his term of office expired he removed to Clarksburg, in the same county, and engaged in farming and mercantile business. In the year 1851 he was elected to represent his constituents in the State Legislature and again in 1867. Having no children, the kindly natures of Mr. and Mrs. Allen have led them to bestow their affection upon four adopted daughters,—Sarah E., wife of E. P. Emson; Malvina H., wife of John Henry Ely; Ella Cornelius Allen; and Annie Cornelius Allen. Mr. Allen has acted as freeholder for a number of years and filled various township offices, his services having been no less valuable to the township than to the county. In 1878 he was elected to the office of sheriff of the county of Monmouth, thirty-seven years having elapsed since his first election to that office. He has been, during his whole life, closely allied to the Democratic party and actively interested in the public questions of the day. He is a liberal supporter of the Christian Church, his wife being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clarksburg, N. J. In 1882, at the close of his term of

office, Mr. Allen removed from Freehold to Perrineville and engaged in farming and the management of a grist-mill and steam saw-mill. His services are frequently called into requisition as trustee and executor, and his advice sought in the solution of questions involving litigation.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### ATLANTIC TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Atlantic was erected in 1847<sup>1</sup> from parts of the townships of Freehold, Shrewsbury and Middletown, with boundaries "beginning at the southwest corner of the township of Shrewsbury, where the Freehold, Shrewsbury and Howell township lines meet; thence running northerly until it comes to the mouth of the road that leads through Jacob Conover's farm; thence northerly, following the middle of said road, until it comes to the road near — Hulse's house, which road leads to John J. Ely's mills; thence easterly, following the middle of said road, until it strikes Middle Hop Brook; thence easterly, down said brook, its various courses, until it comes to Swimming River Bridge; thence southerly, along the middle of the main road leading to Tinton Falls, until it comes to Haggerty's corner; thence southerly until it strikes the Tinton Falls mill-pond brook; thence up the said brook, by its various courses, until it comes to Pine Brook; thence up the said Pine Brook until it strikes the Howell township line; thence westerly along the line dividing the townships of Howell and Shrewsbury to the Freehold line, the place of beginning."

The boundaries of Atlantic township are: On the north, Marlborough, Holmdel and Middletown townships; on the east, Shrewsbury; on the south, Wall and Howell; and on the west, the townships of Freehold and Marlborough. The principal stream of Atlantic township is Hop Brook, which marks all of its northern boundary against Holmdel and Mid-

<sup>1</sup> Pamphlet Laws of 1847, pp. 66-67.



dletown. Several small tributaries of this stream flow in an easterly and northeasterly direction through the township, the principal of which are Yellow Brook, Big Brook and Hock-hockson Brook, the last named of which, with its southern branch, marks the greater part of the eastern boundary of Atlantic against Shrewsbury. Through the southeast part of the township, for a short distance, runs the line of the New Jersey Southern Railroad. The population of Atlantic township by the United States census of 1880 was seventeen hundred and forty-three. Following is a list of chosen freeholders of the township from its erection to the present time, viz.:

- 1847. Thomas G. Haight.
- 1847-48. De Lafayette Schenck.
- 1848-53. Samuel W. Jones.
- 1849-50. John L. Stoutenburg.
- 1854-55. Edward T. Ryall.
- 1856. Henry D. Hendrickson.
- 1857-59. Henry Buck.
- 1860-62. Forman Sickles.
- 1863-67. Levi Scobey.
- 1868-80. John T. Haight.
- 1881-84. John E. Van Derveer.

COLT'S NECK is the principal village of Atlantic township, and is situated a little south and west of the centre, on Yellow Brook. The origin of the name of this village is unknown. Some have said it came from the fact that a tavern-keeper of the place put up a sign bearing the picture of a colt's head and neck and the date 1817, but the date alone would disprove the supposition, as the name Colt's Neck is frequently mentioned in the annals of the Revolution, full forty years earlier.

The tavern referred to was kept by Jacob Hart, who, in 1817, was succeeded in the proprietorship by Samuel Laird, who kept it until his death, July 5, 1859, when it was taken by his son, Robert Laird. He kept it several years, and in 1869 it was taken by Augustus Manning. Since that time it has had several proprietors, and is now kept by Monroe Matthews.

The post-office at this place was established February 24, 1824, with Samuel Laird as postmaster. He was succeeded in 1859 by Tunis

Statesir, who was, in turn, succeeded by Charles Sherman, the present postmaster, who is also a merchant of the village.

In the house now occupied by Miss Harriet Throckmorton, John Wardell kept a store in 1812 and for several years after that time. About 1816, Benjamin Van Mater kept a store in a building that stood where now are the store of Charles Sherman and the dwelling of John T. Haight. John Stoutenburg kept a store here afterwards, and Elisha Laird kept a store from about 1836 for many years. He was succeeded by Samuel and James Throckmorton. In 1858, Levi Scobey erected a store building, which he occupied several years. He was succeeded by Charles Scobey & Co., Charles Haight & Co. and in 1864 by S. Matthews, who is the present owner and proprietor.

Colt's Neck as it was in 1834 is described in the Gazetteer of that year as follows: "It contains from fifteen to twenty dwellings, one tavern, two stores, three grist-mills and two saw-mills."

The grist-mill near the village, on Yellow Brook, was built before 1806 by Cornelius Barrielo. It was afterwards owned by Charles Parker and Jacob Probasco, by whom the present mill was built, and since 1864 by Thomas E. Snyder, the present owner. The Van Mater and Muhlenbrink mill, lower down on the same stream, was also built by Cornelius Barrielo. Later, it came into possession of William Haight, by whom it was carried on many years, and afterwards by his sons.

THE REFORMED CHURCH AT COLT'S NECK dates back less than thirty years. The following sketch of it is quoted from the "Classis of Monmouth," written in 1879 by the Rev. Theodore Wells.

"The first creative act of the Classis, so to speak, was the organization of the church of Colt's Neck. This is a point about five miles from each of the churches of First and Second Freehold and the now church of Holmdel. It was a district of country outlying all circles of direct church influence, and lying between the three churches named and the pine region. Here was room for us to enlarge on our own







frontier. This district contained many families of people, mostly living on small holdings, and without means of conveyance to church. They were quiet, respectable people, and anxious to have Gospel privileges. As they occasionally needed the services of a minister in the marrying of their children and the burial of their dead, they naturally called in some minister that they knew, or had seen or heard of, almost entirely irrespective of denominational relations. But inasmuch as the Reformed minister at Holmdel had the longest pastoral life, he at length became the only one they knew of. And it happened that that whole community fell into his hands as a part of his pastoral care, and he, responding to the occasion, made regular pastoral visitations among them, usually once a year, preaching the gospel from house to house, and in this way some precious fruit was gathered into the church. But it was for years a heavy burden on his heart that these people could not have the means of regularly hearing the gospel preached.

"A commodious school-house was at length erected at Seobeyville, two miles from Colt's Neck, where preaching services could be held, and here was organized a Sabbath-school that grew and prospered. It must not be omitted, however, that in this district were good farms and substantial families, who had places in the neighboring churches. But while the poor are to have the gospel preached to them, they have sometimes to wait till they who are better favored can furnish the accommodations. The matter was long deferred. But at last the movement was made. On the 22d of April, 1856, a church was organized with seventeen members, a house of worship was built, and the candidate, Jacob S. Wyckoff, a then recent graduate of the seminary, was called and ordained as their pastor. The church moved onward in its good work, taking care of itself in pecuniary matters from the beginning. Mr. Wyckoff resigned his call in 1864, and his place was filled in 1865 by Rev. James Bolton, who, after a prosperous ministry of thirteen years, has been during the last year succeeded by the present pastor."

The "present pastor" above referred to was

the Rev. Hendrick A. Hendrickson, who was installed pastor December 3, 1878, and continued until 1882. The present pastor, the Rev. George W. Labaw, was installed December 5, 1882. The church has now a membership of one hundred and eighty-five.

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CONGREGATION AT COLT'S NECK was first organized in 1871 by the Rev. Frederick Kivelitz, of Freehold. Mass was celebrated once a month, and religious instruction given to the children once a week in a private house. In 1879 a brick and terra-cotta church of Gothic style, thirty by fifty-five feet, capable of seating two hundred and fifty persons, was erected. Since the completion of the church, Mass has been celebrated there every second Sunday.

THE INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH was organized in 1808, in which year the people in the region of Colt's Neck who were in sympathy with the views of the Independent Methodists met at the residence of one of their number on the 5th of February, and elected the following persons trustees of the church: Zenas Conger, Gaut Haulsart, John Cooper, Solomon Ketchum, Thomas Cottrell and William Karnaglin. A certificate of incorporation was filed the next day. A house was built on the main road towards Freehold, and was used many years, and abandoned about the time the Dutch Reformed Church was built.

SCOBEYVILLE is situated in the eastern part of the township, about two miles east of Colt's Neck. The first store at this place was opened by Charles Seobey in 1848. It was kept by him till his death in 1873, and since that time has been kept by his daughter, Miss H. A. Seobey. A post-office was established there in July, 1874. William Henry Foster was appointed postmaster, and still continues. The office is kept at the store.

EDINBURGH is a hamlet located in the north-western part of the township. There has been a school-house at this place for sixty or seventy years. A store is now kept by James Mains, who is the postmaster. The post-office was es-



established in 1882, by the name of Vanderburg post-office. On Big Brook, and on the road from Holmdel to Colt's Neck, John G. Taylor built, in 1822, the grist-mill now operated by the estate of Charles M. Taylor.

**SCHOOLS OF THE TOWNSHIP.**—Atlantic township is divided into six school districts, which contain five hundred and forty-seven children of school age. The school property of the township is valued at eight thousand one hundred dollars.

Colt's Neck School District, No. 1, has one hundred and thirty-eight school children. The first school in this locality was kept in a house that stood about half a mile west from the village, on land now owned by Patriek Desmond. Charles Bowman, now living at seventy-eight years of age, attended school at that house about 1813. Stephen Wood was the teacher. A little later, Anthony Van Pelt taught there. In 1835, Thomas G. Haight, Samuel Laird and John Statesir were trustees, and in that year there were thirty scholars in the district. The old house was used until 1856, when the present house was erected.

Edinburg School District, No. 2, has one hundred registered pupils. The first house in which school was taught in this neighborhood was built for that purpose about 1814. In 1824, James Taylor was a pupil there, and school had then been taught there several years. The present school-house was built before 1836 and was rebuilt in 1865.

Scobeyville School District, No. 3, contains one hundred and two scholars. Before 1820 a school-house was erected on land of Daniel Polhemus, on a lane off the main road. This was used until 1851, when the present house was erected on land of Thomas Guest.

Hillside School District, No. 4, has forty-six children of school age. Prior to the school established at the "Phalanx," children attended school at the old house not far from Scobeyville. In 1844, when the society that later became the Phalanx was in active operation, a school was opened and kept by them until they failed. The district was then known as the Phalanx District, and was not abolished until December

21, 1865, at which time the present district was formed and the school-house built.

Montrose School District, No. 5, embraces parts of Middletown and Atlantic townships and contains one hundred and fourteen children. The school-house, which is in Atlantic township, was erected over twenty years ago.

Robbins School, No. 5½, has forty-seven school children. A school-house was erected in this section in 1873 and school opened in October of that year.

**THE NORTH AMERICAN PHALANX.**—In the northeastern part of Atlantic township, between Hop and Yellow Brooks, on the road leading to Leedsville, in Middletown township, and five miles from the town of Red Bank, is the location which, from the year 1844 to 1855, was occupied by a company or society known as the North American Phalanx, a community of disciples of Fourier, the essence of whose doctrine was that there should be a universal guarantee of the results of all labor, a just distribution of those results and economical methods of production, distribution and consumption by co-operation in communities.

Albert Brisbane and Parke Godwin were mainly responsible for the interesting experiment that was continued eleven years. Mr. Brisbane's translations of certain of Fourier's writings were published in the *New York Tribune* and elsewhere, while Mr. Godwin's arguments in favor of a practical test of the French philosopher's ideas were attracting attention. Brook Farm was then in existence, and there were other less ambitious experiments elsewhere. Those whose thoughts were bent on attaining a perfect system of living were eager for opportunities to test their various plans. The Phalanx had for its members people from the middle of New York State and from Albany, at which latter place the society was informally organized in 1842 or 1843, with Allen Warden as president, and Nathan R. French treasurer. A committee then appointed to select a tract of land on which to settle examined various places in New Jersey, and finally decided on the tract above referred to, in Atlantic township, which tract of six hundred and seventy-three acres was purchased January 1, 1844, by Allen Warden,





Thomas Guest and Nathan R. French, of Hendrick Longstreet and Daniel Holmes, for the sum of fourteen thousand dollars.

The society then numbered about fifty persons, of whom about twenty—nearly all of whom were men—took possession of the tract in 1844, and lived in two small farm-houses,—one an old Dutch building,—which were standing on the property. Before the next spring they had built a three-story frame building, one-half of which is now standing, and then the wives and children of those who had spent the winter there moved to the place.

On the 26th of December, 1844, notice was given that application would be made to the next session of Legislature for an act to incorporate "The North American Phalanx." This was not accomplished until 1848, when a certificate of incorporation was issued. The capital stock of the society was two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, of which thirty-five thousand and seventy dollars was required to be paid in. The day fixed for the act to take effect was January 1, 1850.

On the 2d of February, 1850, the land and buildings which had been purchased by Allen Warden and others, with the property that had afterwards accumulated, amounting in all to \$39,863.44, was transferred by Stephen F. Wheeler to "The North American Phalanx." Additions had been made to the buildings; a grist-mill, saw-mill, smith-shop, offices and other buildings were erected, including the General Phalanx building, which contained the dining-room, worship and dance-hall, besides offices. A school was established, and was taught by a Frenchman, named Guillaudeau, a member of the society, who was also the post-master.

On the 17th of April, 1854, the grist-mill, saw-mill, smiths' shops and offices of the Phalanx were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of nine thousand dollars. This disaster, added to other troubles that had arisen, brought about the failure of the Phalanx scheme. The mills had been a principal source of revenue, and their loss was a fatal blow. There was a conflict of opinion as to whether to rebuild them where they had been or in the neighboring village of Red Bank.

This dispute was seized upon by those who had the most foresight, as a pretext for withdrawing. They could not make the money that they felt their talents would command in open competition with the world. The colony had at one time numbered nearly two hundred, but it was not large enough. The industries had not been varied enough even for the little number there. There was not capital sufficient to establish other lines of work. The project had failed of the success that was anticipated, and the Phalanx ceased to exist in April, 1845, and the members gradually withdrew and dispersed. Charles Sears, John B. Angell and Thomas Guest were appointed to dispose of the property. The real estate was advertised to be sold October 3, 1855, and the movable property on the 5th of December in the same year. The Phalanx lands are now the property of John B. Angell (at one time president of the Phalanx), Thomas Guest (a member), John Bueklin (also a member), Coleman and Richdale, James Bray and Burrows Walling.

A description of the place by one who visited it in 1883, together with a rather rambling and highly-colored account of what was done there by the Phalanx people during the eleven years of their occupancy, was printed in a city newspaper<sup>1</sup> of the time, and is here given,—

"The Phalanx is a large tract of land shut off from the country road by a wild and luxurious growth of brush and shrubbery. Once beyond this natural screen the visitor finds himself in a charming, and at the same time an astonishing, place. A dam transforms a little brook into a placid lake at the foot of a majestic lawn leading up to a city row of frame houses, built at right angles to an enormous structure something after the style of a watering-place hotel. Other large buildings are to be seen through the trees and across the farms, and, if one did not know the truth, it would be difficult to decide in a glance whether the place was dead and deserted or whether it still contained a population.

"The pond, the lawn and the trees are in the main the victims of continued neglect. The big, hotel-like place is evidently not inhabited. But the road is apparently in constant use; smoke curls from the cottage chimneys; now and then a man, woman or a pair of romping children pass from one house to another, and the calls of a ploughman to his sweating horses ring

<sup>1</sup> New York Sun, September 30, 1883.



through the grove. A stranger's second judgment would be, after he had seen a big, factory-like building further along the road, with parlor furniture in view through the windows, that there had once been a much larger number of people in the inclosure; that they had lived in the big hotel and carried on various industries in the other houses, and that now only a few remained, and these were scattered about the place, some of the work-houses being turned into homes, some of the homes being abandoned and the only work being farming. And this would be in a general way the truth about the place.

"Farming was at first the only means of livelihood of the Phalanx people, and those who engaged in it knew so little about it that Mr. John Bucklin, who was then and has ever since been a farmer there, says that when two of the cattle got their horns locked in the woods the men sent to the house for saws with which to cut off their horns, and when they attempted to drive a farm-wagon through an open gateway they managed to break down the gate-posts on either side of the opening. They bought poison marl, too, and thus made good ground sterile. John Bucklin was head of the farming group and Mr. Nathau French, now head of the firm of French & Co., produce commission merchants in New York, was the only other man who knew anything about farming. In time, however, the farming became very profitable, though there was more land than was ever utilized in that way. In time, too, other industries were added. Black silk stocks were then in vogue, and these were manufactured there. There was also a machine-shop, a blacksmith-shop and a flouring-mill. The latter grew to be the principal source of profit. From grinding their own grain they came to grinding that of the neighborhood, and then to shipping it from New York and sending it back in the shape of flour of a good quality.

"At the highest point of success in the Phalanx the place presented a very interesting study. There were one hundred and forty people<sup>1</sup> there, and their home was the big building now standing that has been likened to a hotel. Its dining-room was also its ball-room, and as it is to-day, there are not many halls in New Jersey as large, as handsome or as well-built as it is. At the further end is a great oil-painting of some sanguine philosopher's dream of a model Fourierite city, looking a little like a world's fair-ground and somewhat resembling a Western railroad centre, mainly composed of passenger and freight depots. Here the service at the tables was performed by waiter-girls,—the wives, daughters and sisters of the Phalanx men. Here, also, they did their cooking and heating by steam. In all New Jersey there was not another such kitchen or restaurant. The food

was excellent and the cooking elaborate. Work was thus furnished for women whose time was not wholly taken up in their own families, and who, in the world at large, would have had no such opportunities for making themselves useful and comfortable. Here, also, and in various other ways, children, who, if they had been anywhere else, would have found no way to add to the family income, worked at odd jobs. The restaurant workers formed several groups in what was called the household or domestic series. This series included the kitchen, laundry, waiting (at table), sewing and several other groups.

"An idea may be had of how the whole work was divided up by the reports in the New York papers of the first funeral at the Phalanx. Seven years passed before a death occurred, and Mr. James H. Martin's was the first funeral. In the procession to the tomb President Sears led the way. The body followed, attended by six members of the Kitchen Garden Group, of which the deceased man had been the head. The members of this group all bore, in rest, their hoes as emblems of their profession. These were draped. A hoe and spade, draped and crossed, rested on the coffin. Then followed the family, then the Agricultural Series, headed by its chief, Mr. John Bucklin, and thus composed:

1, the Market Garden Group, with draped hoes in rest; 2, the Marling Group, with pickaxes and shovels in rest, draped; 3, the Farming Group; and 4, the Orchard Group, all with their implements draped.

Mr. G. B. Arnold headed the various groups in the Domestic Series, appointed with the proper implements draped. Dr. E. Guillaudeau headed the Festal Series, bearing Humboldt's *Cosmos*, as a symbol of all knowledge, draped, and Mr. J. Warren carried a flute, draped. Another teacher carried a roll of music, draped. Chief J. B. Angell, heading the Live Stock Series, was followed by the groups in that department, leading four robust farm-horses with head-stalls draped, and as many grave oxen with their horns in mourning. The Manufacturing Series, headed by Mr. N. R. French, with a draped miller's staff, presented the millers with their tools, the carpenters with theirs, the iron and tin-workers and the woodmen each with an appropriate implement, and each implement draped. The ceremony at the grave was not unlike a similar one in the outer world. Nothing was said to startle or shock the most orthodox Christian.

"This gives an idea of the industrial distribution in the colony. Everybody worked at what he or she could do best, and the pay was regulated partly by the rates of wages elsewhere and partly by the nature of the work and the number employed at it. It was part of the theory that disagreeable work, such as had to be performed and yet could not be with pleasure undertaken by anybody, should command the highest pay. An applicant for membership served a year's probation, and in that time, having been put at all the sorts of labor, was certain to demonstrate what

<sup>1</sup>This statement is too small. There were, as before stated, nearly two hundred people at the Phalanx at one time.







work he was best fitted for, and also whether his moral character and mental inclination were such as the colonists would care to introduce in their society. Everybody with one idea came there to air his notions and there was not a crank in the country who could personally, or in writing, present his views but was heard from. The Phalanxers held to what was wholesome, honest and practical all throughout their co-operation, and there never blew for an instant during their eleven years of existence the faintest breath of scandal there. That this could only have been the result of the most earnest and watchful endeavors must be apparent to whoever considers what sort of material composed the army that knocked at the gates for admittance.

"And yet the Jersey people thought then, and think now, that it was a free-love community. They could not understand the colony at all. The simple fact that the Phalanx girls and women wore the Bloomer costume settled this point in the rural mind. . . . The Phalanx girls found the short skirt and long trousers the best costume when at work, washing, scrubbing, waiting on table, moving about near machinery, toiling in the fields and elsewhere. They loved the dress so, that they shaped silk and satin into it and danced in it on Fourier's birthday and other grand occasions.

"The home life and the rearing of children were exemplary. All the intellectual pastimes of the city-folk, lectures, concerts, readings, plays and the possession of the daily papers, the magazines, a fine library, and an exceedingly well-equipped school were enjoyed there. The style of living at first indulged in proved not to have been warranted by the income of the colony; and an old ex-chief, who put everything as tersely as possible, said yesterday that 'they never prospered until they came down to the bed-rock of griddle-cakes and sorghum.' They were, in the main, shrewd and practical people, whose extravagances, such as the funeral of Chief Martin, were due to extreme earnestness rather than mere sentiment; and the very men who led in that quaint parade all attained at least moderate distinction and prosperity in the world afterward. Charles Chapin invented the sewing-machine hemmer; Mr. Nathan French is conspicuous in mercantile circles in New York; Mr. Benjamin Urner's is a familiar name. The Angells, the Bucklins, the Colemans and a score of others have prospered beyond most people. George B. Arnold's magic ruffle revolutionized one industry; and George Arnold, the poet of Bohemia, did not die so young but that he left his name in people's minds.

"After eleven years the colony broke up, . . . and so came the end, when outside creditors received one hundred cents on the dollar, and insiders sixty-five cents. But not a man of them nor a woman would or will admit that the scheme thus tested is not practicable, or that their venture can fairly be called a

failure. They love the memory of the Phalanx; and some of them, among the most substantial and prosperous people in rich old Monmouth County, love the Phalanstery itself, and still live and carry on their callings there in the happy expectation of resting at last in that favored place."

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

THOMAS G. HAIGHT, son of William Haight, was born November 10, 1790, on what is called the Morrisdown farm, half a mile east of Colt's Neck, where he resided until he was about thirty-eight years of age. He prepared for college in New Brunswick, under the Rev. Mr. Croes (afterwards Bishop Croes), and graduated at the College of New Jersey, Princeton, 1812. He was married to Miss Van Marter, March 8, 1824. In 1828 he settled at Colt's Neck, where he resided until his death. After he graduated, he read law for some time in Philadelphia, but never pursued the study to take license. He devoted himself chiefly to agriculture, and was one of the most scientific and successful farmers in the county. He had eight children,—three daughters and five sons.

The intelligence and worth of Mr. Haight early drew the attention of his fellow-citizens to him as a suitable man to represent the county in the Legislature; and though reluctant to leave his home and his farm, he was prevailed upon to be a candidate, and was elected to the Assembly in 1831, where he soon became a leading member. He served in that body six years, and in 1837, during the stormy and exciting time of Mr. Van Buren's administration, he was elected Speaker of the House, in which office he acquitted himself with great credit, and in a manner highly acceptable to all parties. He was one of the members from Monmouth County of that memorable convention which met in Trenton, May 14, 1844, and formed the present Constitution of the State. He was often solicited to become a candidate for Congress, but his domestic habits and his love for home led him to refuse all such solicitations. He was one of the three founders of the Young Ladies' Seminary at Freehold, Judge John Hull and the Rev. D. V. McLean being the others.



About a year before the death of Mr. Haight, he, with Mr. McLean, prepared and published an address to the people of Monmouth County on the subject of erecting a monument in commemoration of the battle of Monmouth.

The death of Mr. Haight occurred on the 1st of September, 1847, when he was nearly fifty-seven years of age. At the time of his decease the attention of his fellow-citizens was strongly turned to him as a candidate for Governor at the succeeding election; and had he lived, there is scarcely a doubt but that he would have been selected. He was beloved by all parties, and known throughout the whole State of New Jersey as an upright, clear-headed, honest man.

It was in private life that the character of Mr. Haight shone most conspicuously. He was very domestic in his habits, peculiarly fond of his family, and entirely unambitious of public stations or public honors. His intelligence and probity gave him great influence in the community in which he lived, in advising and settling the business affairs of his neighbors who had fewer advantages than himself. To such neighborly acts he freely devoted much of his time, without fee or reward; and this, with his frank and courteous manner, greatly endeared him to all who knew him.

**THE FAMILY OF SCHENCK.**—The Schencks of Monmouth County are descended from Roelof Schenck Van Nydeck, who, with his brother Jan, emigrated to this country from Holland in 1650. The particular place from whence they came was probably Doesberg, in the province of Guelderland, where, it appears, their father was born. He was a son of Martin and a grandson of General Peter Schenck and his wife, Joanna Van Scharpenseel, and General Peter was a brother of the celebrated General and Sir Martin Schenck, with whom his brother fought and was one of the most successful, daring and enterprising commanders in Holland in the time of the war of the revolution there. Tracing them back, they were descended from four Dericks in succession, and then from two Heinrichs, or Henrys, in succession, going back to 1346, and who were lords of the manorial estates of Afferden, Wachtendonk and Blyenbeck, Affer-

den and Blyenbeck lying on the Maas River, above the town of Gennepe, and Wachtendonk on the Nioos River, above the town of Gelden. Passing back one or two unknown generations, they were descended from Ludolphus, Wilhelmus and Christianus, going back to 1225, and then through Christianus, a second son in the family of Schencks, the barons of Tautenberg, going back to 330. The descendants of Christianus were known as the Schencks Van Nydeck, so called from the town of Neideggen, lying on the river Roer, some eighteen miles east of Aix-la-Chapelle, where no doubt Christianus had an estate or residence. \*

Roelof Schenck Van Nydeck, the emigrant to this country, married, first, in 1660, Neeltje, daughter of Garret Van Couwenhoven; married, second, in 1675, Annetje Wyckoff; and married, third, November 30, 1688, Catharine Cregin, of New York, widow of Stoffen Hoagland. He settled at Flatlands, where, in 1661, he obtained a patent for forty-six acres of land, and subsequently purchased lands until he must have owned some three hundred acres and the one-half of the mill occupied by his brother John. At one assessment for taxation his ratables were the next highest in the town, and at another subsequently taken they were the highest. He was among the first enrolled as a member of the church of Flatlands, and no doubt among its principal supporters. When a bill was procured for the church, his subscription was the highest on the list. He was appointed by Governor Leisler captain of cavalry in Kings County, and at several different times held the office of justice of the peace and once that of schepen, or judge, and in general in public affairs was among the leading men in the colony.

Roelof had three sons—Martin, John and Garret—and seven daughters. Martin was left the homestead at Flatlands, and his descendants have principally remained on Long Island. John and Garret emigrated in 1696 or 1698 to Monmouth County, and together with Cornelius Conwenhoven, who married their sister Margaret, settled in Pleasant Valley on a five hundred acre tract of land purchased of John Bowne, merchant of Middletown.

Garret Schenck was born October 27, 1671,







and died September 5, 1745. Married, about 1693, Neeltje, daughter of Koert Voorhees. He resided on the farm now occupied by Theodore Rapelyea, and built the spacious old mansion still standing there in good order. He acquired a large property and in different parts of the country, among which, in company with John Couwenhoven, the grandfather of the present John Conover, was a six thousand acre tract of land at Penn's Neck purchased of John Penn. When the First Reformed Church of Freehold was organized, in 1709, he was one of the two first deacons, and from 1721 to 1727 he was a member of the Provincial Assembly of New Jersey. He had five sons—Roelof, Koert, Garret, Jan and Albert—and five daughters.

The second Garret Schenck was born August 30, 1712, but did not live to see old age, as he deceased at the age of forty-five, August 20, 1757. Married, in 1737, Jane, daughter of William Couwenhoven of Long Island. He remained on his father's homestead in Pleasant Valley; had three sons—William, John and Garret—and seven daughters.

John, son of the second Garret, was born August 28, 1745, and died on his eighty-ninth birth-day, in 1834; married, July 31, 1767, Maria, daughter of Tunis De Nise and Francinke Hendrickson. He settled on the farm in Pleasant Valley adjoining his father, now occupied by his grandson, David Schenck, and also for a time carried on the business of a fuller and then a saw-mill. While yet a young married man, and surrounded by a large family of young children, the War of the Revolution came on and he ardently embraced the patriotic cause, and as occasion called for, took up arms and at times engaged actively in the fight. He became captain of militia, and was a bold and enterprising officer and possessed of influence. It is said that soon after the beginning of the war he was approached by a Loyalist and asked what he would take to embrace the royal cause. He answered, "The whole of Europe cannot buy me; give me liberty." Such was the value of his example and influence, and so obnoxious was he to the enemy, that his sister Anna, living on Long Island and in the midst of the foe, overheard some British officers talking about

offering fifty guineas for the head of Captain John Schenck, dead or alive. She procured a pair of silver-mounted pistols, and sent them to him with the message, "John, don't you be taken alive." These pistols are carefully preserved at his old homestead, and may be seen there at the present day. His life was sought after and insecure, and sometimes for safety he passed his nights in concealment, at one time in a hay-stack in the field. This was discovered; but made aware of the discovery by some friends, the next night he went elsewhere. The enemy came, surrounded the stack and set it on fire; but he was out of their way. For a while, at least, he was in the main army, but was principally engaged in contests with the enemy about the vicinity of his home. At one time he drove off with his company a party of Refugees who had come over from Staten Island and landed on the East Point, and, having gone up in the country, collected a lot of cattle and driven them down to the shore, were engaged in trying to ship their plunder on their boats. They were attacked, the captain going on ahead and swinging his hat and calling to his men to come on. He himself shot one man down by the name of Lawrence, having struck him in the forehead with a bullet. At another time he was at the Highlands with his company, and a company of the enemy being there, he urged his superior officer, who was also there, to make the attack, but he was afraid and refused. The captain then assumed the responsibility, attacked the party, captured them and brought off most of them at least prisoners of war. When, in the month of June, 1781, the party of fifteen hundred invaded the county, they came up as far as Pleasant Valley and some firing occurred, and they engaged in plundering. A detachment went over to the residence of Captain John Kiming to burn his buildings. A skirmish took place and they were driven back. During the firing the mother, with her three-weeks old babe—her De Lafayette—retired to the cellar to get out of the way of the bullets. A grenadier was killed on the occasion and buried down in the orchard, where his grave was afterwards regarded as a ghost-like place by the boys. The captain himself was



struck by two bullets fired by a Hessian, whom he pursued and captured.

Captain John Schenck and Maria Denise had nine sons,—Garret, Tunis, William, John, Denise, Daniel, De Lafayette, David and Hendrick, —all of whom lived to grow up, and all but one to marry; and four daughters,—one died an infant, the others grew up and married.

The seventh son was De Lafayette, born May 27, 1781, and died September 11, 1862. Married, December 17, 1805, Eleanor, daughter of Garret Conwenhoven and Anna Schenck. He was named in honor of that devoted friend of this country and of civil liberty, the Marquis De Lafayette, and is said to have been the first American child to bear that name. And when the general was in this country on his visit, and in New York, Captain John was introduced to him, and he then introduced his son as bearing his name, and received his grateful thanks.

De Lafayette Schenck resided first at Matawan, and carried on for many years quite extensively and successfully the business of tanning and currying, and at the same time cultivated and improved a farm of some sixty acres. He was a man noted for his sound good sense and correct views of things. He paid strict attention to his own business, was upright in all his dealings, and when needed to labor, was never ashamed to work with his own hands. While industrious and careful in promoting his own interest, he was possessed of public spirit, and ready to aid in any worthy cause; especially did he manifest a patriotic spirit in giving for the cause of his country in her hour of need. He was among the first in his native county to engage in laying out and straightening the public road from Freehold to Middletown Point; and when that road was extended to Keyport, and converted first to a plank-road and then to a graveled turnpike, he took an active and leading part. In instituting the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank at Middletown Point, he was largely instrumental in obtaining the charter, freely investing in it of his means; was for a few years its first president, and up to the time of his death was an influential member of the board of directors. He entered heartily into the first enterprise of taking a steamboat from the shores of Mon-

mouth to the city of New York, partaking of its reverses and successes, and, in connection with this, aiding in erecting and arranging the steamboat wharf at Keyport, and keeping his interest in these until within two or three years of his death. He was largely interested in sustaining the large hotel and boarding-house at Keyport, and when destroyed by fire, rebuilt it on his own responsibility. In 1830 he removed on the large farm near Holmdel, where he remained until 1855, conducting successfully his farming operations. The last seven years of his life he spent at Keyport, attending to his general business affairs. Although not a professing church member, yet such were his views in regard to moral influences that he never would allow card-playing or even a pack of cards on his premises. For building the parsonage house at Keyport he gave one-third of the cost of it, and was always a helper in sustaining the preaching of the gospel, and among the most regular in attendance on divine services. On his dying bed he expressed to his pastor his belief and trust in Christ as the source of mercy to him.

De Lafayette Schenck and Eleanor Conover had four sons,—Garret C., Sidney, Alfred and Lafayette,—all of whom lived to grow up and marry; and four daughters, that lived to grow up and marry.

Garret Conover Schenck was born September 14, 1806. Married, first, October, 1834, Sarah Ann, daughter of William Hendrickson and Eleanor Dubois, and eldest sister of Senator Hendrickson; married, second, April 14, 1846, Jane, daughter of Hugh McCormick and Jane Welsh, of Fairfield, N. J. The greater part of his time when a youth was spent in attending the common schools of the vicinity, while, owing to the frequent changes of teachers, the advantages for laying a good foundation for an education were but limited. Hence, when about fourteen years old, he was sent to the classical school at Cranbury, then under the care of Mr. Hanna. There he commenced the study of Latin; but after attending nine months the school was broken up, and he returned home to assist for a year or two in working in the yard and on the farm. In the spring of 1823 he was sent to







the classical school at Lawrenceville, then under the care of the Rev. Dr. I. V. Brown. Three years were spent here in preparing for college, and in the spring of 1826 he was admitted to the sophomore class at its third term in Rutgers College, New Brunswick. At the commencement, in 1827, he was chosen as one of the junior speakers, and in 1828 took part in the commencement exercises, and then graduated. The principal part of the succeeding year was spent in New Haven, in attendance on Professor Silliman's lectures on chemistry,

church was not then sought, and the principal part of the summer was spent in occasionally preaching in different places, and traveling and visiting friends in Central New York and out West as far as Ohio and Kentucky. In the winter of 1833 he was sent by the Board of Domestic Missions to preach as a missionary in the recently organized church of Marshallville; here he continued for six months. In the autumn he was sent by the Classis to preach as a supply for a few weeks in the then vacant church of Walpack. A call to become their pastor was



*Gamaliel Yehewok*

mineralogy and geology, and on the lectures of Dr. Knight on anatomy, physiology and obstetrics. In the autumn of 1829 he was admitted to the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick, and passed the regular course of study in theology, excepting three months spent in assisting the Rev. Dr. Currie in teaching in the grammar school.

In April, 1832, he was licensed by the Classis of New Brunswick to preach the gospel. His health having been somewhat impaired by application to study, a situation as pastor of a

soon after made out and accepted, and in February, 1834, he removed there and commenced his work. He was required to preach at four different places in the congregation, distant from each other, and lying on both sides of the river Delaware. It was a laborious charge, attended with discouragements, and sometimes danger in crossing the river. He continued here but one year, when circumstances constrained him to resign this charge.

In the autumn of 1834 he received and accepted a call to the church of Clover Hill. There



he labored among a divided and unsettled people for a year and a half, when it was thought best to make a change. He was then invited to preach as a candidate in the then vacant church of Pompton Plains, the old mother Reformed Church in that section of the country. A call from here was soon made out and accepted, and in July, 1837, he removed there, and in due time was installed there as their pastor. Here for fifteen and a half years, in this large and substantial congregation, and among a plain, but refined and kind-hearted people, he labored with encouraging success. In the course of time, and from various causes, a few became disaffected with their pastor, and it was thought best quietly to leave them. He gave up his call, not knowing where to go or how his family might be situated. No opening in the church for him as a settled pastor has since presented itself, and in the Providence of God and in a singular way his lot has been cast on a farm for his livelihood, and to engage more or less in the business of the world, although, until old age has brought on its infirmities, he has for several years preached in a destitute neighborhood, and been every few weeks called to supply a vacant pulpit.

In 1866 he was chosen a member of the board of trustees of Rutgers College, and for several years was chairman of the board's committee on the college farm. After the death of his father, in 1842, and in his place, he was chosen a director of the bank at Matawan, and served for some twenty years. For some fourteen years he has held the office of president of the Freehold and Keyport Plank-Road Company. For about eighteen years he has held the office—an unprofitable one, it is true—of secretary and treasurer of a mining company in Nevada, and was for a while a trustee of one in the State of Colorado.

In the mean while, in 1869, with Mrs. Schenck he traveled as far as Monterey, on the Pacific coast, visiting on the way Salt Lake City, San Francisco, one of the big tree groves and the Yosemite Valley; and two years after, with a cousin, traveled as far as Central Nevada. At another time he traveled as far as seventy-two miles west of Vicksburg, and on the way spent a day in the great cave of Kentucky. Much time, traveling and expense for the past fifty

years has been given to preparing a history of the settlement and settlers of Pompton, and also to gathering the materials and arranging the facts for a genealogical history of the old Dutch families of Monmouth County.

ISAAC G. SMOCK.—Hendrick Malysen Smock emigrated to America in 1654, having married Geerje Hermans, who died in 1708. He settled in New Utrecht, purchased land in 1665, took the oath of allegiance in 1687 and was a magistrate from 1669 to 1689. His children were, Matthias, Johannis, Marritje, Lecudert, Sarah, Martyntje and Rebecca. Johannis, who removed to Monmouth County, married Catharine Barents, about 1672, and had children,—Hendrick, Barnes, Matje, Anna and Femmeke. Hendrick Smock was born in 1698, and died on the 30th of May, 1747. He married, in 1721, Mary Schenck, and had eight children, among whom was John, born in 1727, who married, in 1747, Elizabeth Conover, and had twelve children, of whom George, born November 24, 1754, married, in 1779, as his first wife, Sarah Conover, and on November 27, 1794, as his second wife, Margaret Van Deventer. By the first union were children,—John, Aaron, Hendrick, Peter, George, Mary and an infant. The children of the second marriage were Jacob, Garret, Sarah, Elizabeth, Jane, Letty Ann, Isaac G. and Eleanor. Isaac G., of this number, was born on the 7th of November, 1809, in Somerset County, N. J., where he remained until nine years of age. The family then removed to Marlboro' township, Monmouth County, but soon disposed of the property there owned, and made a second purchase of the land now in possession of the subject of this biography, and within one mile of the original Smock tract. Isaac G., after limited opportunities of education, devoted his energies to labor on the farm, which, on the death of his father, in 1836, came to him by inheritance and purchase. Here he has since been engaged in the congenial and healthful pursuits of the agriculturist, though the burden and responsibility has, in later years, been left to others. Mr. Smock was, on the 23d of December, 1841, married to Ellen, daughter of John Conover







Eng'd by A.H. Ritchie

Osborne G. Smith





*James J. Taylor*





and Ann, his wife. Their children are John C., assistant State geologist for New Jersey, and Margaretta V. D., deceased. Mr. Smock is a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and identified as director with the Monmouth Plank-Road Company. A Democrat in his political associations, he has never accepted office other than that connected with the township. The cause of religion has ever found in him a zealous friend and the Holmdel Reformed Dutch Church a liberal supporter. In this church, of which both he and Mrs. Smock are members, he has filled the offices of elder and deacon.

**JAMES J. TAYLOR.**—The Taylor family represented by the subject of this biographical sketch is of English extraction, the grandfather of the latter having been George Taylor, a farmer in Atlantic township, who married a lady of Scotch descent, whose children were John G., James G., George, Edward, Elizabeth, Hannah, Rachel and Eleanor. John G., a native of Atlantic township, married Elizabeth Conover, daughter of Tunis Conover, of Raritan township, to whom were born children,—James J., Mary (Mrs. Cornelius Hendrickson), William and two sons, John and Conover, who died in infancy. Mr. Taylor was twice married after the demise of his first wife, and had by these marriages twelve children. His son James J. was born on the 20th of January, 1810, at the home of his paternal grandfather, in Atlantic township. His father, who pursued for years his trade of cooper, also rented farms in various parts of Monmouth County. His son received but meagre advantages of education, and at the early age of nine years learned to follow the plow, continuing to assist his father in this healthful occupation until twenty-one years of age, and also rendering his services useful in a grist-mill owned by him. On attaining his majority he removed to a farm in Atlantic township owned by an uncle, of which he was for four years the tenant. He was, on the 18th of December, 1833, married to Lucy Ann, daughter of William and Lydia Morford, of Middletown township, whose birth occurred June 24, 1809. Their children are Mary, born

July 4, 1835, widow of Henry D. Ely, who has six children; Conover T., a farmer, born July 5, 1837, married to Eleanor Morford, who has two children; James M., whose birth occurred March 13, 1839, deceased; Emma C., born July 2, 1841, wife of James H. Leonard, who has two children; James M., born September 15, 1843, professor of mathematics in Madison University, Hamilton, N. Y., married to Mary Paddock, who has three children; John G., a farmer, born February 11, 1846, married to Hattie Frost, who has one child; Joseph W., a miller near Englishtown, born December 4, 1848, married to Annie English, who has three children. The grandchildren are Rebecca, Howard, Thomas, Emma, Aelsah and Henry, children of Mrs. Mary Ely; Ada and Lilah, children of Conover T. Taylor; Mary and Albert, children of Mrs. Emma C. Leonard; Jamie, Florence and William H., children of James M. Taylor; Harry, Amy and Bertha, children of Joseph W.; and Flora, daughter of John G. Taylor. Mr. Taylor, in connection with his brother, inherited the farm he at present owns, which he made his home in 1835 and has to the present time continued to reside upon. He is a member and has manifested much interest in the operations of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. A Republican in politics, he has neither sought nor held office, and finds the excitements of public life not in accord with his tastes. His character as a citizen has caused his services to be often sought as executor and administrator, and these responsibilities have ever been filled with the most scrupulous integrity. He is a member of the Baptist Church of Holmdel, in which he has been for forty-eight years a deacon. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor celebrated in 1883 the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, on which occasion their bridesmaid and groomsman were present to offer their congratulations with other friends. The sentiment of the following poem, written by a member of the family, was re-echoed by all present:

Just fifty years ago to-day  
 Since this true marriage was declared,  
 And looking back o'er all the way,  
 How great the bounties you have shared!



Blest in your basket and your store,  
In children's filial love and care;  
And Heavenly guidance, even more  
Than all the others, is your share.

Sickness and pain you each have borne,  
Afflictions, too, in wisdom given,  
Dear kindred from your hearts been torn,  
Exchanging earth for brighter heaven.

One little boy beneath the sod,  
In early life was called away;  
You gave it back in faith to God  
To meet it in a brighter day.

One other child by marriage tie  
Has gone to wear a Heavenly crown—  
Thus, two are singing songs on high  
And six still cluster round your home.

Your children to three trades belong—  
One teacher, one miller and farmers four;  
Sixteen grandchildren range along,  
In years from five up to a score.

You still are hale and hearty, too,  
And blest content illumines your eye;  
'Tis hopeful that to each of you  
The years may pass as peacefully.

That creeping age may distant be,  
Rheumatic pains be vanished far,  
And in your grandchildren's glee  
May you enjoy a copious share.

Your numerous kindred here to-night  
All add best wishes, kind and true:  
A happy home, a hearth-stone bright  
And blessings copious as the dew.

And when the years their course have run,  
And each and all been gathered home,  
May each a crown bright as the sun  
Wear joyfully around the throne.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### MANALAPAN TOWNSHIP.

MANALAPAN<sup>1</sup> is one of the border townships

of Monmouth County, adjoining the county of Middlesex, which forms its entire northwestern boundary. On the northeast it is bounded by the township of Marlborough, on the east and southeast by Marlborough and Freehold townships and on the southwest by the township of Millstone. The Manalapan and Matchaponix Creeks, Wemrock Brook and several other small tributaries flow northwestwardly through the township into Middlesex County, where they mingle their waters with those of South River, the southern branch of the Raritan. The only railway line of the township is that of the Jamesburg and Freehold Agricultural Railroad, which passes through it in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction. The population of the township by the United States census of 1880 was two thousand one hundred and seventy-five.

Manalapan was taken from Freehold township in 1848, its boundaries, as described by the act erecting it, being as follows:

"Beginning at Asher Smith's tavern, at the southeast corner of the township of Millstone, in the road leading from Mount Holly to Freehold, and from thence running along the middle of said road northwardly to the mouth of the road leading to Black's Mills; thence in a northwardly course to a stone planted in the middle of the road leading from Englishtown to Freehold, said stone being the corner of the farms now owned by William T. Sutphin and that of John E. Gordon; thence north, forty degrees and thirty seconds east, till it strikes the line of the township of Marlborough; thence along the southerly line of Marlborough until it strikes the boundary line between the counties of Monmouth and Middlesex; thence following said boundary line southwardly to the northeast corner of the township of Millstone; thence along the southern boundary line of said township to the place of beginning."

Following is a list of the chosen freeholders of Manalapan township from its erection to the present time, viz.:

1848-50. Joseph Ely.  
1850-55. John M. Perrine.  
1856-59. Samuel Vaughn.  
1860-64. James A. Perrine.  
1865-72. Samuel C. Bowne.  
1873-81. Joseph Ely.  
1882-84. Elias Van Derveer.

The first settlements in this township were

<sup>1</sup>Gordon says Manalapan means good bread, a place producing things to make good bread, a good country. Judge McLean says, according to tradition, it means good land. Both doubtless convey substantially the Indian meaning. The name is probably derived from Indian words signifying a place where there was water to drink and where bread could be raised, from *manel* or *menel*, drink or drinking, and *pan* from *panne* or *pone*, a well-known Indian word for bread. Such a place the Indians considered a good country, good land to locate upon.





made by Scotch people, who, coming into Monmouth County as early as 1685, located at first along the Middlesex County border, in the present townships of Matawan and Marlborough, spread rapidly thence towards the southwest, through what was then Freehold township, embracing the present territory of Manalapan.

The oldest house in this township is the ancient mansion now occupied by Mrs. Aehsah Hendrickson, and standing about four miles southwest of Freehold town. It was built in the year 1702 by Cornelius Thomson, and remained for more than a century in possession of the Thomson family. It is a stone structure, with walls two feet thick; still in good condition, and apparently as solid as when erected. The ceilings are of clear yellow pine. In the old kitchen (which has been torn away) was a door, the wrought-iron latch of which bore the rudely-cut figures and letters, "1702, C. E. T.," the initials being said to mean "Cornelius and Elizabeth Thomson." In 1710, on the first Monday in March, an election of freeholders was held in this house, and mention is found in the records of public meetings being held at the same house, from that time, at least as late as 1723. The Thomson farm embraced five hundred acres of land, which was sold in 1844, three hundred acres being purchased by Enoch Hendrickson, and the remainder being sold in smaller tracts. A part of it, now in possession of Clark Clayton, embraced a half-acre of land on which was the Thomson burial-place. On this half-acre was a grove of chestnut-trees, and it was provided that the nuts from these trees should be sold, and the proceeds applied to keeping the burial-plot properly fenced.

The "Old Tennent Church" is situated in Manalapan township, about three miles northwest from Freehold, and two miles southeast of Englishtown. This is the most widely celebrated and historic house of religious worship in Monmouth County, if not in all the State of New Jersey, because of its Revolutionary associations and the ability and devotional fame of ministers who spent the greater part of their lives in pious labor within its walls.

The old church edifice, which is now more than one hundred and thirty years old, is the successor of an older church that was built on the same site before the birth of George Washington, and which was, in fact, the successor of the still more ancient "Scots Meeting-House," which, however, did not occupy the same site, but stood some miles farther north, in what was then the township of Freehold, but now Marlborough, where the place is still marked by the relics of the old "Scots burying-ground," though the last vestiges of the old meeting-houses had disappeared years before the birth of any now living. This old meeting-house was built in 1692. The first of the churches built on the "White Hill" site (where the Tennent Church now stands) was erected under a permit granted by King George in 1727; was finished in 1730, and dedicated April 18, 1731. Its successor, the present church, was built in 1752, and first occupied early in 1753.

The name "Old Scots Meeting-House" indicates correctly the nationality of its original congregation. They were Scotch emigrants, who set out from their native country in September, 1685, in the ship "Caledonia." The vessel had a tempestuous passage, but at length made the port of Perth Amboy. The passengers had encountered so much of suffering during the voyage that, though they had first intended settling further south, they determined to remain in New Jersey. Many of them came to Monmouth County and settled. Being faithful adherents of the Church of Scotland, they soon formed a church, "which was the first one settled with the gospel ministry in East Jersey, west [south] of the Raritan River."<sup>1</sup> The exact date of their organization has not been ascertained, but their meeting-house was built in 1692, as before mentioned.

They were styled the Presbyterian Congregation of Freehold, which township at that time embraced the site of their place of worship, as also that of the two later edifices. In December, 1705, "At y<sup>e</sup> Request of Mr. John Craig, Walter Ker, William Rennel, Patrick

<sup>1</sup> This statement has frequently been made, but there is some doubt as to its entire accuracy, though the error, if any, is but slight.



Imlay, in behalf of themselves and their Brethren, protestants, desenters of freehold, called Presbiterious, that their Public Meeting-house may be recorded," it was accordingly recorded, as follows: "The Meeting-House for Religious Worship, belonging to the Protestant disenters called y<sup>e</sup> Presbiterians of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Freehold, In y<sup>e</sup> County of Monmouth, in y<sup>e</sup> Province of New Jersey, is Scituate, built, lying and being at and upon a piece of rising Ground or little hill, commonly known and called by the name of free hill, in s<sup>d</sup> town."

The first pastor of the Scotch congregation was the Rev. John Boyd, who was qualified for the pastoral office, by the court on the 29th of May, 1706. He died in 1708, and was succeeded as pastor by the Rev. Joseph Morgan, who appeared before the court in September, 1709, and asked to be qualified, which was done on the 6th of December following, on which occasion the pastor was accompanied in court by seven persons, presumably members of his congregation, viz.: John Lane, John Wikoff, John Sutfin, William Hendrickson, John Esmuth, William Williams and Avri Marbison. More extended mention of Mr. Morgan, and of his connection with the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches, is made in the history of the Brick Church, in Marlborough township.

Mr. Morgan continued to serve the Presbyterian Church for about nineteen years, after which it appears that some disagreement arose which resulted in the severing of the pastoral relation. This disagreement with Mr. Morgan; the appointment and ordination of his successor, the Rev. John Tennent, in 1730, and his death in April, 1732; the call to the Rev. William Tennent, Jr., and his ordination as pastor in 1733, as also the erection and occupation (April, 1731) of the first house of worship at White Hill, the site of the present Tennent Church, are all referred to in the following extracts, taken from the original church record, by Mr. R. P. Craig, viz.:

"The minutes of Freehold congregation, Beginning Tuesday, June 9th, 1730.

"June 9th, afd, The congregation met and chose John Henderson To be their clerk, and Charles Gordon, Timothy Lloyde, Jonithan Forman, Robert Cumming and John Henderson as helps To Walter Ker and John Hutton, Elders, or to Represent the

congregation; Capt. Archabald Craig & William Ker, for Trustees for the money that the congregation has in Bank; Wm. Ker & Samuel Ker, chosen as Deacons, or to take care of the collections untill Deacons be Ordained. Monday, July 20th, the Elders & Representatives above mentioned met at the House of Charles Gordons and agreed to build a meeting-House between Wm. Ker's Barrs and Rockey Hill Bridge; also that the Revd. Mr. John Tennent year Begin the 15th day of April last past, viz., 1730.

"August the 3th, at a meeting of the congregation at Wm. Ker's House, agreed that the services be one Sabbath at the upper Meeting-House, and so to continue successively. Also that Diligence be used to get subscriptions for the Building the meeting House, and that the Old or lower meeting-House To be repaired with all Haste that can be; William Kerr & John Henderson to be clear of all charges Towards the Old Meeting-House, in consideration of their charges in going to New Castel Presbeterie; that John Hutton bring in his accompt of charges that he was at in his going to synod & Presbeterics, &c., for the congregation; That said accompt be paid out of the collection moneys.

"Saturday, August the 29th, 1730, The Elders & Representatives met at the House of David Rhea & chose for undertakers or managers, in Building the meeting-House, Wm. J. (illegible), Jonithan Forman, Timothy Lloyd, Archabald Craig, David Rhe, William Kerr & John Henderson, who is to go on Building with all the speed possible after this sowing time is over, and the congregation is to give each man Their Bill or Bond to the said Managers to enable them to go on with the work. The Meeting-House is to be made Forty feet long and Thirty feet wide, and each of the Builders to have one seat in it above their common Due.

"October 15th, 1730, The Revd. Mr. Joseph Morgan (having made a complaint against this congregation that They owed him above £200 arrears of Sallerie) met the congregation at the old Scots meeting-House, where accompts were fairly made up, and Mr. Morgan gave the congregation a Discharge in full. The copy which is received, October 15th, 1730, from the congregation Freehold, full satisfaction To This Day for all sallerie Due him as their Pastor, Joseph Morgan.

"A true copy by me, John Henderson, Clerk, Tuesday, November 19th, 1730. There the Presbytry, or a committee of the same, met at the Scots Meeting-House, and after fasting and prayer, and strict examination and full approbation, Did ordain the Rev. Mr. John Tennent. The Ministerial charge in this congregation, William Tennent, Jonethan Dickinson, Joseph Morgan and Gilbert Tennent. The names of the committee for the congregation was Walter Kerr, Robert Cumming, John Henderson, Robert Newell, — Wilson, George Walker, Timothy Lloyde and Charles Gordon.







"April 18th, 1731, was The first Time That there was servise in the new meeting-House on White Hill. April 28th, 1731, Paid the Revd. Mr. John Tennent £19 17s. 11d. May 3th, 1731, Charles Gordon was ordained an Elder of this congregation. Jonithan Forman, Archibald Craig, Esqrs., & Timothy Lloyd having Declined serving as managers in carrying on the meeting-House, Aaron Mattison, of his own free will, served, and the said Mattison, Together with David Rhea, William Kerr and John Henderson, carry on the work which is now enclosed and glazed. 1731, November 13th, paid Mr. Tennent, of Sallarie, £21 1s. 1731-32, Mareh 8th, paid Do. £19 15s. 2d. Lords Day, April 23, 1732, The Revd. & Dear Mr. John Tennent Departed this Life between 8 & 9 of the clock in The morning, and was Burried on The Tuesday following, a mournful Providence & cause of great Humility To This poor congregation, To be bereaved of the flour of youth, The most Laborious, successful, well qualifide Pastor This age aforeded, Tho but a youth of 25 years, 5 months & 11 days of age, After which we lived Destitute of a Pastor or any constant supply until 8 day, 1732, when the Revd. Mr. Wm. Tennent, Jun., after much Reluctance, was prevailed upon to settle amongst us, at Least for a time. Saturday, Mareh 10th, 1732-33, The Elders & The Major part of the Representatives met at the House of David Rhea & chose collectors to collect the Ministers Sallarie for the ensuing year, Mr. Charles Gordon, Jonithan Forman, Robert Cumming, Samuel Ker & John Henderson, with John Hutton for the fresh Bonds. Saturday, September 8th, 1733, David Rhea & Robert Cummings was chosen our commissioner to Present a call To the Reverend Mr. William Tennent, Jun., at the Synod of Philadelphia, which call Mr. Tennent accepted. Thursday, October 25th, 1733, a committee of Presbtrey met at White Hill Meeting-House, and, after examination and approbation, Did, with Fasting and Prayer, and Laying on of Hands, Ordain the Revd. Mr. Will<sup>m</sup>. Tennent, Jun., to the Pastoral charge in this congregation."

William Tennent, Jr., the fourth pastor of the First Presbyterian (Tennent) Church of Freehold, was born in Ireland, June 5, 1705, and was the second son of Rev. William Tennent, Sr., who came from Ireland to America in 1716, bringing with him his four sons,—Gilbert, William, John and Charles. He first settled in Westchester County, N. Y., and then moved to Bucks County, Pa., and founded the "Log College." He was a man of rare attainments and of strong mind. He and all his sons became conspicuous in the early Presbyterian Church of this country, by reason of their high

attainments, as also, in greater degree, because of their deep piety and the active part which they took in the propagation of the gospel.

William Tennent, Jr., received his education from his father, in the "Log College," in Buicks County, Pa., and there he soon became a fluent scholar in the Latin and Greek languages. At an early age he determined to prepare for the ministry, and studied with his brother Gilbert, at New Brunswick. By too close application to study his health failed, and he became fearfully emaciated and discouraged. One day, while in conversation with his brother Gilbert, he fell, fainted, and, to all appearances, died. He was prepared for interment, and the neighbors were invited to attend his funeral. His physician, who was very much attached to him, was absent from home at the time, but returned before the time for burial, and could not be induced to believe that Tennent was really dead. He stayed by the body constantly three days and nights, and, at his urgent request, the funeral was postponed several times. At last Gilbert insisted that the funeral should take place without further delay. The doctor pleaded for another hour, then a half, and then a quarter, and when he was giving up in despair, William Tennent, to the utter astonishment of every one in the room, opened his eyes and gave a terrible groan, and again relapsed into his former condition; in a quarter of an hour he gave another groan, and again became insensible. Finally, he recovered enough to speak, but it was six weeks before he could leave his bed or his friends entertain any hope of his recovery, and a whole year before he recovered completely. He had lost his memory entirely, and was obliged to begin with the alphabet again, and go through his studies as if he had never seen a book.

He said, in conversation with some friends, that the three days he was in the trance seemed to him only as a few minutes. He felt as if caught by some invisible power and carried up; away in the distance he beheld a sight of inexpressible glory, indescribable and beautiful. His first thought was, "Blessed be God, I am saved at last." His agony and disappointment were great when his heavenly conductor informed him that he must return to earth. Then he gave



a groan, and as he opened his eyes, saw his brother Gilbert and the doctor, and heard them disputing about his burial.<sup>1</sup>

After he recovered he was licensed to preach in Philadelphia, and afterward supplied the place of his brother John, in the First Presbyterian Church of Freehold. He preached six months for his brother, and was then called to that charge himself, and after one year's trial was, on October 25, 1733, settled over the church as its regular pastor, as has already been mentioned. Some of the names of the principal families who attended his ordination were Craig, Anderson, Watson, Covenhoven (Conover), Ker, Gordon, Lloyd, Wilson, Henderson, Forman, Crawford, Little, Campbell, Newell, Rhea and English,—names which have since been among the most prominent in the county.

The salary at which Mr. Tennent was engaged was one hundred pounds per annum. There was a large and valuable farm attached to the parsonage; but Tennent, trusting his business to servants, and taking no interest whatever in temporal affairs, soon became involved in debt. A gentleman suggested that he should have a good wife. Tennent said he knew nothing about such matters. It was finally arranged that Tennent should go to New York and get introduced to a sister-in-law of this gentleman, which he did a few days afterward, and as his time was precious, proposed to the lady at once, and within one week from the time she first saw Tennent was installed mistress of the Tennent parsonage. She, by her tact and management, rescued the farm from debt, and proved an excellent wife.

In 1753, the year of the completion of the present edifice, there was a great revival in the church, and again a remarkable one in 1757. It was Mr. Tennent's custom to spend the time between services on Sunday in the underbrush,

near the church, praying in secret and reflecting on the mercies of God. One Sunday he swooned and fell senseless. Time passed, and the elders found him there, and carried him to the church and assisted him to the pulpit. It was on this occasion that he preached that memorable, thrilling sermon which he always after delighted to call his "harvest," and which was the direct means of the conversion of thirty persons.

After having faithfully served the church as its pastor for more than forty-three years, Mr. Tennent died unexpectedly, after a short illness, at the old parsonage, in the seventy-second year of his age. Being taken suddenly ill, he sent for his friend, Dr. Henderson, who was just starting for Haddonfield, where the Legislature was to meet, of which he was a member. He, however, stopped in his way there and saw Mr. Tennent, but gave no hopes of his recovery. On hearing this, Mr. Tennent said, "Blessed be God, I have no wish to live if it should be his will and pleasure to call me hence," and then, after a moment's silence, he varied the expression thus, "Blessed be God, I have no wish to live if it should be his will and pleasure to call me hence, unless it should be to see a happy issue to the severe and arduous controversy my country is engaged in; but even in this, the will of the Lord be done." On returning from the Legislature Dr. Henderson called and stayed with his friend and patient till the latter's death, on the 8th of March, 1777. He said that Mr. Tennent on his death-bed seemed to have the other world opened before him and to have already a foretaste of heaven.

Of the character of Mr. Tennent the Rev A. P. Cobb, pastor of the church, said, in a memorial sermon preached in 1877: "He was a man of common sense and of plain thought. He was not an enthusiast, but labored faithfully and patiently. He was a pastor consecrated wholly to his work, humble, meek, a man of purity. The people called him the peace-maker, and from far and near they came to him to settle their disputes. He was not in favor of compromising with the powers and pretences of a wicked world. He was an advocate of revivals of religion, and was in full sympathy with

<sup>1</sup> It was twenty-nine years after the death of William Tennent, Jr., before any sketch or memoir of his life ever appeared in public print. Elias Boudinot, LL.D., was the first to write his history from materials furnished by Dr. Henderson, an elder of the Tennent Church. The identical manuscript is now in Princeton, in one of the college libraries. This account of Mr. Tennent's remarkable trance was first published in the *Evangelical Intelligencer*, of Philadelphia, from the pen of Dr. Boudinot.







Whitefield's work, when that great revivalist was in this country. Mr. Tennent was a Christian patriot. A man is not fit to be a patriot unless he is a Christian patriot. To the day of his death he was an ardent supporter of the colonies in their struggles to shake off the oppressive sway of England. He passed away and ascended to a bright home above before seeing the smoke of battle rolling around his earthly home. Mr. Tennent was eminently qualified to be a faithful minister, both by reason of his superb natural endowments and his attainments as a scholar. He could employ spiritual devices to convert men. Furthermore, he was a man chastened by sorrow, having lost two of his sons after they had grown to manhood. Mr. Tennent, as a pastor, was honored by time and place. He had the whole county as his charge. He planted in this county the seeds of a noble Christian influence, which continue to bring blessings to us. He lived the life and died the death of the righteous. An old man full of years, he was gathered to his fathers. Throughout his whole life he seemed to have this saying ever sounding on the ear of his soul, 'Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life.'"

The Rev. John Woodhull succeeded Mr. Tennent as pastor of the church in 1779. In the same year he established a classical school,<sup>1</sup> which was taught in a small red house that stood near the parsonage gate. It was continued about fifteen years and obtained a wide celebrity. Mr. Woodhull was scarcely less famed for his piety, zeal and efficiency as the pastor of this church than was his predecessor, Mr. Tennent. He continued in the pastorate for forty-five years, and died, November 22, 1824, at the age of eighty years. He was succeeded by the Rev. Job F. Halsey, who was, in turn, succeeded by the Rev. Robert Roy. Both these pastorates were of comparatively short duration. The Rev.

Daniel V. McLean became pastor in 1831. His successor was the Rev. L. H. Van Doren. After him came the Rev. Donald McLaren, who resigned November 5, 1862. The Rev. Archibald P. Cobb was installed August 8, 1863. He continued in the pastorate nearly eighteen years, and until his death, which occurred February 26, 1881. His successor, the Rev. George G. Smith (the present pastor), was called May 31st and installed June 27th, in the same year.

The present church edifice, which (as already mentioned) was first used for worship in 1753, contained seventy-eight pews, which, in 1754, were sold to persons whose names (as also the price paid for each) are given in the following list,<sup>2</sup> viz.:

PEW NO.	£	s.
1 Thomas Davis & Son . . . . .	17	00
2 Aaron Matteson and William Norcross . . . . .	17	00
3 Samuel Karr . . . . .	15	00
4 Darick Suttfin, Jacob's son . . . . .	15	00
5 William Van Kirk . . . . .	16	00
6 John Henderson . . . . .	16	00
7 Michael Johnson . . . . .	15	00
8 William Hugen, Darick Suttfin and his son Darick . . . . .	15	00
9 David English . . . . .	16	00
10 Samuel Forman and Robert Rhea . . . . .	16	00
11 Peter Forman . . . . .	12	00
12 Cort Schanck and Son, Garret and John Longstreet . . . . .	12	00
13 Passage into the pews . . . . .	.	.
14 George Rhea . . . . .	8	00
15 By the stairs a short pew . . . . .	3	00
16 John Garton . . . . .	10	00
17 Richard Pittenger . . . . .	10	00
18 John Forman, son of Jonathan, Esqr . . . . .	10	00
19 Benjamin Vancleve and Richard Vancleve . . . . .	10	00
20 Peter Wilson, son of Peter . . . . .	10	10
21 John Clayton . . . . .	10	10
22 Gawen Watson . . . . .	11	00
23 Samuel McKonke . . . . .	11	00
24 Jonathan Forman, Esq . . . . .	11	10
25 Two pews for the minister of the place, the Rev. William Tennent . . . . .	11	00
27 Mr. Joseph Forman . . . . .	11	00
28 Timothy Lloyd and his son, John Lloyd . . . . .	11	00
29 John Reed . . . . .	10	10
30 David Rhea . . . . .	10	10

<sup>1</sup>In April, 1782, John Woodhull (doubtless Rev. Dr. Woodhull) advertises that the Latin School at Freehold is again revived in a peaceable and agreeable neighborhood, where board can be had on reasonable terms. A number of gentlemen of first character, trustees. Mr. Clark, a very worthy, capable gentlemen, late of the College of New Jersey, was an instructor.

<sup>2</sup>This list, furnished by Hon. William P. Forman, of Millstone, was found among the papers of Peter Forman, who, before and during the Revolution, lived on a farm near Monmouth Court-House.



PEW NO.		£	s.
31	William Wikoff . . . . .	10	10
32	John Anderson, Esq. . . . .	10	10
33	William M. Knight . . . . .	10	10
34	Michael Sweetman . . . . .	10	10
35	John Van Skoyak . . . . .	10	10
36	William Hampton . . . . .	10	10
37	James Craig . . . . .	10	10
38	William Craig . . . . .	10	10
39	William Crawford . . . . .	11	00
40	James Robinson . . . . .	11	00
41	James English . . . . .	11	00
42	Peter Gordon, Esq. . . . .	11	00
43	Lewis Forman . . . . .	11	00
44	Zebulon Baird . . . . .	11	00
45	John Little, Esq. . . . .	11	00
46	Robert Davison . . . . .	10	10
47	David Baird . . . . .	10	10
48	John Truax, Thomas Craig and William Shaw . . . . .	10	10
49	Andrew Baird . . . . .	10	00
50	William Compton and John Clayton, Jr. . . . .	10	00
51	Aaron Matteson, Jr. . . . .		
52	Charles Hibbets (by the banisters) . . . . .	3	00
53	{ The open entry . . . . .		
54			
55	Michael Errickson . . . . .	12	00
56	Joseph Cheeseman, William Cheeseman and John Reed, Jr. . . . .	12	00
57	William Laird and James Dey . . . . .	15	00
58	Abram Clayton, William Purton and Ligged Smith . . . . .	15	00
59	Robert, James and Thomas Thompson . . . . .	15	00
60	William Covenhoven, Jr., and his son, Peter and John Cheeseman . . . . .	15	00
61	Joseph Karr . . . . .	16	00
62	Nicholas Cook . . . . .	16	00
63	John Vorhis and his father and father-in-law . . . . .	15	00
64	Robert Coming, Esq., George Walker and David Barkly . . . . .	17	00
	David Gordon, £14 10s.; Peter Gordon, Esq., £2 10s. . . . .	17	00

Gallery pews, beginning at the northeast corner:

PEW NO.		£	s.
1	. . . . .	8	00
2	. . . . .	7	00
3	. . . . .	7	00
4	. . . . .	7	00
5	. . . . .	7	00
6	. . . . .	7	00
7	Dr. Peter Lacount . . . . .	8	00
8	. . . . .	7	00
9	. . . . .	7	00
10	. . . . .	7	00

PEW NO.		£	s.
11	Philip Conine, Esq., £5 10s.; John Siliman, £1 10s. . . . .	7	00
12	James Mulligan and David Brooks . . . . .	7	00
13	Hugh McFarren . . . . .	7	00
14	Robert McChesney and son, May 29, 1755 . . . . .	8	00

With regard to the building of this old edifice, the Rev. A. P. Cobb, in the memorial sermon preached in 1877, and before referred to, said: "On the 29th of May, 1750, all the trustees, except Tobias Polhemus, being present, it was determined to build a larger church. John Davis, being appointed chief carpenter, constructed the present building, which is forty by sixty feet, twice the size of the former church. There were one hundred and ninety-two subscribers. The largest subscription was fourteen pounds, by Peter Gordon. The form of the church has not been essentially changed since its first construction, although a few alterations have been made. Many of the descendants of the original members sit in the same seats in which their forefathers sat. The charter of the corporation was procured February 21, 1750, of Governor Belcher, in the reign of George II. As soon as we obtained an independent government, the trustees of the church were obliged on going into office to take three oaths,—the first, disclaiming allegiance to England; the second, swearing allegiance to New Jersey; the third, swearing devotion to the church. After the church was built, for a long time no fire was kept up in winter, our ancestors giving as reason that they had determined not to be lukewarm, but to be either cold or hot. They had two services right in succession, separated only by an intermission of half an hour in order to partake of some refreshments. This was necessary because some persons came very long distances."

The pulpit of this church was several times occupied by that most celebrated preacher of his time, the Rev. George Whitefield. The famous Indian missionary, the Rev. David Brainerd, also preached here, to congregations largely composed of savages, on several occasions, notably in 1746, to which the following, from the "Memoirs of David Brainerd," has reference, viz.:





"We, whose names are undersigned, being elders and deacons of the Presbyterian church in Freehold, do hereby testify, that in our humble opinion, God, even our Saviour, has brought a considerable number of the Indians of these parts to a saving union with himself. Of this we are persuaded from a personal acquaintance with them, whom we not only hear speak of the great doctrine of the Gospel with humility, affection and understanding, but we see as far as man can judge them, soberly, righteously and Godly. We have joined with them at the Lord's Supper, and do from our hearts esteem them as our brethren in Jesus.

"For those who were not God's people may now be called children of the living God. 'It is the Lord's doing and is marvelous in our eyes,' until he has subdued all things to himself, this is and shall be the unfeigned desire and prayer of

"WALTER KER,  
 "ROBERT CUMMINS,  
 "DAVID RHEA,  
 "JOHN HENDERSON,  
 "JOHN ANDERSON,  
 "JOSEPH KER,  
 "Elders.

"WILLIAM KER,  
 "SAMUEL KER,  
 "SAMUEL CRAIG,  
 "Deacons.

"Presbyterian church, Freehold, August 16th, 1746."

A description of the old church, written by the Rev. James M. Freeman, was printed in the *National Magazine* in January, 1854, as follows:

"In size the building is forty by sixty feet, with three entrances on the longer side. The old oak frame is covered with shingles, which, though in good preservation for their age, confess the wasting assaults of time and storms. The pulpit is on the north side of the house, immediately opposite to the central door, so that the minister faces the width of the church instead of its length. It is very narrow, and is surmounted with a sounding-board, according to the custom of our fathers. A number of wooden pegs are placed in the panel work immediately back of the pulpit, on which the preachers used to hang their hats and overcoats. Leaning against the pulpit are several long and slender rods, at the extremity of each of which is suspended a silken bag, terminating in a tassel. These singular-looking things are used by the deacons in taking up collections, and must be very convenient in the long pews. The pews are high and very narrow, suggesting the idea of penance rather than devotion. The gallery is wide and lofty and will seat three hundred people. In former times one side of it was partitioned off for the colored people, but during the administration of the present

pastor, Rev. Mr. Van Doren, the middle wall of partition has been taken down. The pews on the ground floor will seat five hundred, so that the whole building can accommodate eight hundred worshippers. Instead of being plastered, the interior is ceiled with boards, which, together with the pews, remained in their primitive unpainted condition until about twenty years ago, when the pews were painted a dingy red and the sides and ceiling white.

"The remains of the sainted Tennent lie buried under the floor of the central aisle. In the year 1818 a marble slab was placed in the wall at the right of the pulpit, with the following inscription in gilt lettering:

'Sacred  
 to the Memory of the  
 REV. WILLIAM TENNENT,  
 Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church  
 in Freehold,  
 Who departed this life the 8th of March, 1777,  
 Aged 71 years and 6 months.  
 He was Pastor of said church  
 43 years and 9 months.  
 Faithful and beloved. 1818.'



OLD TENNENT CHURCH.

About 1855 the east end of the old edifice was reshingled and painted white. The interior of the church has also been repainted, stoves introduced, the pews upholstered and the aisles carpeted; but with the exception of these, and some other minor changes, the old edifice is the same as when first occupied in 1753. The old communion-table, at which the Lord's Supper has been administered to successive generations for one hundred and thirty years, is still in use.



Immediately after the ordination of William Tennent as pastor (1733) the congregation appointed a committee to purchase a parsonage, with farm land attached. In 1735 the committee made the purchase from Mr. Covenhoven, at a cost of five hundred pounds. The parsonage (situated more than half a mile from the church) was a low building, large on the ground, with four lower rooms,—two on each side of the hall,—with kitchen attached in the rear. Above was the attic room, sloping on one side with the rafters, and with a window facing the north, which, as is said, was used as a study by both Mr. Tennent and Mr. Woodhull. During the battle of June 28, 1778, a round shot came through the roof into this room while the conflict raged furiously around the house and in the adjoining orchard.

In order to keep the parsonage and farm always in possession of the church, they put every legal safeguard around the property which they could devise. Every year the trustees were obliged to swear that they would be faithful to this trust and would keep the parsonage from being sold. A little over one hundred years after its purchase the Tennent Church suffered this property to pass out of its hands. The farm (one hundred and eighty acres) was sold, February 6, 1860, to Charles A. Webster, for thirteen thousand two hundred dollars. The venerable parsonage house has since been demolished.

The ancient burial-ground which surrounds the old Tennent Church is no less historic than the edifice itself. In front of the church is a monument to the memory of Rev. John Woodhull, D.D., who exercised pastoral charge here for forty-five years. A little further on, a dark stone slab covers a grave, on which are these words: "Here lies the mortal part of Gilbert Tennent. In the practice of physic he was successful and beloved. Young, gay, and in the highest bloom of life, death found him hopefully in the Lord; but O, reader, had you heard his last testimony, you would have been convinced of the extreme madness of delaying repentance. *Natus* April,

1742. *Obiit* March 6, 1770." This young physician, who had not completed his twenty-eighth year when he was summoned away from earth, was the son of William Tennent.

At one end of the church is the grave of Lieutenant-Colonel Monekton, a gallant officer in the British army, who was killed in the bloody engagement of the 28th of June, 1778. There was nothing to mark the spot but his name rudely carved on the building, until about 1850, when a Scotch school-teacher in the neighborhood put up a red board, with the simple inscription, in black letters, "*Hic jacet* Colonel Monekton," and the date of his death. Afterwards this school-teacher died; and, ac-



OLD TENNENT PARSONAGE.

cording to his particular request, was buried by the side of the remains of him to whose memory he paid such respect. When the battle of Monmouth was fought, a man was sitting on a gravestone in the yard; a stray cannon-ball broke off one corner of the stone and mortally wounded the man. He was taken into the church, and laid out on a seat, where he died, and where the dark stain of his blood is said to be still visible. The broken grave-stone has since been carried away in small pieces by visitors as mementos of the conflict.

A great number of soldiers of the Revolution—many of whom were killed in the service, and others who survived the war—were buried in this churchyard, as also numbers of soldiers







of the wars of 1812-15 and 1861-65. A list of these interments, as nearly complete as is possible, has been made (at the request of Major James S. Yard) by Mr. R. P. Craig, sexton and superintendent of the Tennent Church burial-ground, and is here given, viz.:

## SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Anderson, James, lieutenant, Hazen's regiment (Second Canadian), Continental army.  
 Anderson, John, first lieutenant, Captain Reading's company, Third battalion, first establishment. Continental army; captain, Fourth battalion second establishment.  
 Anderson, John, private, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Anderson, Kenneth, adjutant First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Baird, David, captain, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Baird, John.  
 Bowne, Joseph, corporal, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Bowman, John, Captain Dunn's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Brewer, Joseph, captain, Monmouth.  
 Craig, David, private, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Craig, James, ensign, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Craig, John, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Craig, John, first lieutenant, Captain Elisha Walton's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Craig, Samuel, troop light horse, Monmouth.  
 Craig, William, teamster.  
 Campbell, William, Continental army.  
 Campbell, John, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Clayton, Jonathan, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Cale, Jacob, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Conover, David, Monmouth.  
 Conover (Covenhoven), Theodoros, sergeant, Captain Hankinson's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Conover, John M., troop light dragoons.  
 Covenhoven, Cornelius, Captain Hankinson's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Covenhoven, Lewis, sergeant, infantry; sergeant, troop light horse, Monmouth.  
 Covenhoven, John, Captain Hunn's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Covenhoven, John, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Covenhoven, William, Captain Hankinson's company, First regiment, Monmouth.

Combs, Joseph, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons.  
 Combs, Thomas, captain rangers, Middlesex.  
 Combs, John, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Chambers, John, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Cheeseman, William, private, sergeant.  
 Davis, William, captain.  
 Dey, John, Monmouth.  
 Edwards, Thomas, second lieutenant, Monmouth.  
 Emmons, Abraham, Monmouth.  
 English, David, Middlesex.  
 English, James, surgeon, State troops.  
 English, James, Monmouth.  
 Erickson, Michael, Monmouth.  
 Forman, David, paymaster, Monmouth.  
 Forman, Jonathan, cornet, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Forman, Jonathan, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Forman, Tunis, sergeant.  
 Forman, William, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Freeman, Henry, fifer, Continental army.  
 Gordon, David, Captain Elisha Walton's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Gordon, Ezekiel, Middlesex.  
 Gordon, James, Middlesex.  
 Gordon, Jonathan.  
 Hays, John, Captain Bond's company, Fourth battalion, second establishment.  
 Hankinson, James, Captain Walton's light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Hankinson, Kenneth, captain, Colonel Forman's battalion.  
 Herbert, Daniel, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Herbert, James, troop light horse, Monmouth.  
 Henderson, John, captain, Monmouth.  
 Henderson, Thomas, lieutenant-colonel, Colonel Forman's battalion.  
 Johnson, Peter, sergeant, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Johnson, William, Third battalion, Continental army.  
 Low, Alexander, sergeant, Monmouth.  
 Laird, Moses.  
 Laird, William, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Laird, William, Captain Nixon's troop horse, Middlesex.  
 Laird, Richard, sergeant, Pulaski Legion, Continental army.  
 Leonard, Samuel, sergeant, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Lloyd, John, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Mount, Mathew.  
 McKnight, Joseph, Monmouth.



McChesney, Robert.  
 McDermott, William.  
 Newell, Hugh (grandfather of Governor Newell), blacksmith, Captain Brewer's company, Monmouth.  
 Perrine, John, Middlesex.  
 Perrine, Lewis, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Perrine, Mathew, Middlesex.  
 Reid, Aaron, Captain Walton's troop light horse, Monmouth.  
 Reed, John, sergeant, Captain Hankinson's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Rogers, John.  
 Rogers, Samuel, lieutenant, Tice's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Rue, John, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Seudder, Nathaniel, colonel, First regiment, Monmouth; killed in skirmish with Refugees at Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, N. J., October 15, 1781.  
 Schenek, Ruliff, Captain Flanagan's company, Third battalion, second establishment, Continental army.  
 Seabrooks, Stephen, troop light horse, Monmouth.  
 Smith, Thomas, Continental army.  
 Sprowls, Moses, ensign, First regiment.  
 Sutphen, Derriek, sergeant, Captain Barnes Smock's company artillery.  
 Sutphin, Joseph, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.  
 Sutphin, John, Captain Hankinson's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Suydam, Jacob, Middlesex.  
 Thompson, Joseph, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Tone, William, Captain Nixon's troop light horse, Middlesex.  
 Van Cleve, Benjamin, captain, Captain Smock's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Vanderveer, John, Monmouth.  
 Voorhees, John, First battalion, Second regiment; First regiment.  
 Walker, Aaron, fifer, Continental army.  
 Walker, George, served as captain in the Second battalion, second establishment, Continental army.  
 Walton, Elisha, major, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Wilson, Joseph.  
 Woodhull, John, D.D., chaplain.  
 Wickoff, Jacob, Captain Hankinson's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Wikoff, William, corporal, Captain Waddell's company, First regiment, Monmouth.  
 Yetman, James, private, Continental army.  
 Yetman, John, Monmouth.  
 Perrine, Peter, captain, Third battalion, Middlesex.  
 Rhea, David, lieutenant, Captain Walton's company, State troops (horsemen).

Coward, Enoch (grandfather of Captain Enoch L., of Fourteenth Regiment).  
 Henderson, William, Captain Holmes' company, Fourth battalion, second establishment, Continental army.  
 Clayton, John, Captain Walton's troop light dragoons, Monmouth.

*Soldiers of 1812-15.*

Anderson, John L., captain,	Kerr, Joseph,
Brewer, Daniel,	Myres, Nathaniel,
Boyde, John,	Malatt, Mathias,
Bowne, Peter,	Nesbit, John,
Brucn, Cyrus,	Perrine, Robert, quartermaster,
Coward, Enoch,	Robinson, James, captain,
Combs, William,	Robinson, John,
Clayton, John,	Rue, William,
Conover, Robert, captain,	Tencyck, William, captain,
Conover, John I.,	Thompson, Joseph,
Conover, Benjamin,	Thompson, Pearson,
Craig, John,	Van Schoick, Samuel,
Craig, Joseph,	Voorhees, Stephen,
Craig, Robert E.,	White, William,
Emmons, Isaac,	Wilson, Robert,
Freeman, Simeon,	Yetman, Esceck,
Gordon, Lewis,	Yetman, Walter,
Gordon, John E.,	Gordon, James.
Hampton, William,	
Laird, David (navy),	

*Soldiers of the War of the Rebellion.*

Abraham, James,	Rue, John, A.,
Breece, William,	Reid, Spafford W.,
Combs, William,	Smith, Josiah,
Duncan, William,	Smith, Jacob,
Dey, Roland,	Van Aman, James N.,
Fisher, David R.,	Woodhull, Dr. Addison,
Fisher, David A.,	Weeden, John E.,
Gordon, Conover,	Yetman, Tunis.
McChesney, George S.,	

Manalapan township is divided into six school districts, which contain five hundred and ninety-eight children of school age. The school property is valued at eight thousand five hundred dollars.

In Lafayette School District, No. 32, the first school-house was built over sixty years ago on the present site, and was rebuilt about 1860. The district at present contains sixty-nine children.

In the Session School District, No. 33, the first school was the Latin School, opened by the Rev. Dr. John Woodhull. Dr. J. T. Woodhull, in an article on "Revolutionary Reminis-





cences, written in 1862, speaking of his father, Rev. Dr. Woodhull, says,—

“And the same year of his settlement (1779) he built a house on an acre of ground leased of the congregation for the purpose of establishing a school.<sup>1</sup> This being the only school of this kind in this part of the State, it became very popular and flourishing. Many eminent men were here trained for usefulness. Among them I must name S. Berrien, who was afterwards Attorney-General of the United States, the two Breeses—Sidney and Arthur—Rev. Dr. Clark, Rev. Ira Condict and George Ord, who wrote the life of Wilson, the ornithologist. . . .”

A very bad boy, who had been punished for some delinquency, remained at home one Sunday until the neighbors had all gone to church, when he, with a little fellow, his cousin, went to the school-house and set it on fire, which consumed it and all it contained. A short interruption ensued, but another house was speedily erected and the school continued to flourish. It was discontinued about 1794.

There is no account of any other school there until 1827, when Asa S. Colton, who later became a clergyman, taught a classical school for a short time in the vicinity of Tennent Church, from which place he removed to Freehold, and there taught. Several years after, the district erected a school-house on the Tennent Church lot, which was used until about 1863, when the present building was erected. The old house was abandoned, moved back and made a part of the horse-sheds. The district contains at present one hundred and thirteen children.

About 1830, William Wilson, a Scotchman, who had been a minister in his own country and had become dissipated, came to this part of New Jersey and taught school in several places in this county, and about 1835 became a teacher at Tennent school. To this place he became much attached. It was he who erected the wooden slab over the grave

of Colonel Monckton in the old Tennent Churchyard. He several times expressed a wish to be buried by the side of Monckton. After teaching here several years he removed to Forked River, where he died. Mrs. Achsah Hendrickson and others of his former pupils at Tennent united in causing the removal of his remains to the Tennent burial-ground, and there erected the stone that now marks his grave.

In Englishtown School District, No. 34, the first school of which anything is known was kept in 1817 in the old tavern-house, now the residence of John Laird. Joseph Lewis was a pupil there in that year. In 1835 the school-house that stood on the site of the present Mount Vernon school-house was removed to “No Chance,” and was kept by — Lord, — Vorhis, and last, and for many years, by Miss Mary D. Hankinson, who, later, kept a school in her own house. Another house was built beyond the Presbyterian Church for both school and church purposes. This house was used until the present edifice was erected, in 1871. Among the teachers at this second house were Francis Frary, Horace Rood and David Stratton. The latter taught many years. The district now contains one hundred and sixty-one children.

In Manalapan School District, No. 35, the first school of which any account has been obtained was kept in the carriage-house of Dr. John T. Woodhull for his own children, but a little later the other children of the neighborhood also attended. Dr. Kearney was a teacher there. The school was afterwards removed to a room in Dr. Woodhull's residence. About 1830 the people of the neighborhood united and built a school-house on Dr. Woodhull's farm, on the north side of the Manalapan road. At this place Condit Gulick (brother of Peter Gulick, the missionary), a Mrs. Emery, William Woodhull, James Crawford and Elizabeth Howard were teachers. No deed was given of the lot on which this house was erected, and upon the sale of Dr. Woodhull's property the school-house was sold with it. Then the present school-lot was purchased of Major John Perrine, and the house erected on it in 1840. The first teacher

<sup>1</sup>This was not the first classical school of the vicinity. March 14, 1778, Joseph Rue advertises that he will open a Latin school at the house of Henry Perine, Freehold, April 13, where the scholars can be accommodated in the best manner at the lowest expense.



was Miss Ellen Shaw, who was succeeded by Miss Gertrude Conover (afterwards Mrs. Nelson Conover). During her term of teaching, the trees that now surround the school-house were set out. The district now contains seventy-six children of school age.

In Black's Mills School District, No. 36, a school was taught in 1826, at which James A. Perrine and Thomas Smith were pupils, under a Mr. Emery. The school-house was situated southwest from Black's Mills. It was then an old house, but was used for school and church purposes. It is now used as a tenant-house. After 1855 a lot was purchased of James Showles, on the Manalapan road, and the present school-house was built. In 1864 it was moved to the adjoining lot, where it now stands. The district now contains sixty-seven children.

In Mount Vernon School District, No. 37, a small school-house was built, about the year 1820, on the site of the present house. Major John Anderson was the first teacher in this house, and about 1823 Miss Mary D. Hankinson began teaching, and continued till 1835, when she removed. The house was soon after moved to "No Chance," near Englishtown. No other school-house was built in this locality until 1860, when the present one was erected on Mount Vernon, and in 1882 it was removed to the present site, which was the site of the old school-house of 1820. The district now contains one hundred and three school children.

ENGLISHTOWN is the principal village (as, in fact, the only one to which that name can properly be given) in Manalapan. It is situated in the northern part of the township, a little north of the Jamesburg and Freehold Agricultural Railroad, on which it is a station. This village existed, under the same name, in the time of the Revolution, and was a halting-place of the American army on its way both to and from the battle-field of Monmouth in June, 1778. On the night of the 29th (the day following that of the battle), General Washington had his headquarters in an old tavern that stood on the site now occupied by the house of John Laird. The village received its name from James English, the original proprietor of the land on

which it was built. Two of his sons, John English and Dr. James English, Jr., were both born before 1800. The latter practiced medicine in this vicinity until his death, in 1834. A more extended account of him, as also of Dr. David C. English (who died in 1860), will be found in the history of the Monmouth Medical Society, in a preceding chapter.<sup>1</sup> Dr. Daniel Polhemus and Dr. William Debow were practitioners in Englishtown and vicinity in the year 1836, and for some years previously. Dr. Polhemus' residence was where Craig Bowne now lives, and Dr. Debow lived in the Disbrow house.

In 1820 there were two taverns in Englishtown, one kept by Mrs. Henry Perrine, where Daniel Stevens now lives, and the other by Mrs. William Gaston, on the corner where Fleming's Hotel now stands. A store was kept by Isaiah Disbrough, where the store of Peter Stevens now is. David and Daniel H. Laird also kept a store where David's grandson (Augustus Dye) now lives. In 1837, Nathaniel S. Rue, Jr., and George W. Sutphin announced a "New Concern," under the firm of Rue & Sutphin, "at the stand lately occupied by John M. Perrine, at Englishtown, where they intend to keep constantly on hand a general assortment of dry-goods, groceries, queensware, hardware, etc." The grist-mill of the place was owned and run for many years by Jacob Keeler, afterwards by Charles Van Cleef, and later passed to the possession of William Parker, the present owner. A school-house stood in that part of the town called "No Chance," and in it Miss Mary Hankinson taught for several years. Afterwards a school-house was built beyond where the Presbyterian Church now stands. It was

<sup>1</sup> One of the early physicians who practiced in the township was Dr. Gilbert Tennent, a son of the Rev. William Tennent. He died in early manhood in 1780.

Dr. John T. Woodhull and Dr. Gilbert S. Woodhull, natives of the township, were both practicing physicians. Dr. John T. retired from active practice while in middle life. Dr. Gilbert S. enjoyed an extensive practice. He lived where John Van Doren now resides, and died about 1832.

Dr. Charles G. Patterson, born 1796 and died 1835, who was a well-known and popular practitioner in Manalapan township, is more fully mentioned in the history of the Monmouth Medical Society.







used until the erection of the present school-house, in 1871.

The post-office of Englishtown was established February 6, 1818. The first postmaster was John S. McChesney, who was succeeded by Benjamin Dey. He remained in office until December, 1839, and was succeeded by Daniel H. Laird, who continued until 1856. The next was Joel T. Clayton, who held the office till March 31, 1859, and was succeeded by John M. Vorhis, who remained postmaster until 1861. His successor was Peter Clayton, who held the office ten years. His successor is the present postmaster, Peter W. Stevens.

THE ENGLISHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, a branch of the old Tennent Church organization, was formed in 1860, and the church edifice was built in the same year in the village for the better accommodation of the members living in that vicinity. In 1874 the building was repaired, and upon completion was reopened for service October 15th in that year. In December, 1876, on petition of members residing in and near Englishtown, the Presbytery severed the connection of this with the Tennent Church, and this was made a separate organization. The new society secured the services of the Rev. Donald McLaren (previously pastor of Tennent Church) as a stated supply. He was succeeded by Rev. J. Livingston Smith, who became the pastor and was installed June 24, 1879. He resigned January 24, 1881. The Rev. Charles Everett, the present pastor, a recent graduate, was installed as pastor June 14, 1881.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, at Englishtown, was organized in 1842, in the old school-house, and on the 23d of January, 1843, the following-named trustees were elected: J. O. Burt, Sr., Elisha McCabe, Simeon Pettit, Daniel Sanford and Gilbert Applegate. A lot was purchased of David and Daniel Laird; an edifice, thirty by thirty-five feet, was erected in the following summer, and used until 1878. In the summer of 1877 the present lot was secured and foundations of a new building laid in December of that year. It was finished the following year, and dedicated October 10, 1878.

The first pastor of this church was the Rev.

Robert J. Andrews. Among his successors have been the following named: John Ford; 1859, R. B. Sutcliff; 1860, Peter Y. Calder; 1862, Albert Atwood; 1865, J. P. Connelly; 1867, George B. White; 1870, J. D. McCurdy; 1874, R. B. Stephenson; 1875, W. A. Marsey; 1876, H. J. Conover; 1878-79, S. F. Gaskell; 1880, W. F. Randolph; 1881-82, J. W. Grant; 1884, D. Clinton Cobb.

SAINT JOHN'S (EPISCOPAL) CHURCH was established in 1860 as a branch of Saint Peter's Church of Freehold. A church edifice was erected, and opened for service April 9, 1861. The Rev. Thomas J. Taylor, a missionary, was in charge of the congregation. It was feebly sustained for several years, and in May, 1877, the building was sold to J. E. Keeler, who used it for a drug-store.

Columbia Lodge, No. 88, K. of P., was chartered July 7, 1873, and was instituted with seventeen charter members. The first meetings were held in the school-house. In 1880 a lodge-room was fitted up in the second story of Trautman's barber-shop, and formally opened in September of that year. The lodge has a membership of sixty-one. The present officers are: Chancellor Commander, J. C. Rue; Vice Chancellor Commander, J. W. Gaskell; Master of Finance, J. C. Sutphin; Master of Exchequer, S. C. Bowne; Keeper of Records and Seals, W. L. Conover. H. W. Long, of this lodge, is Supreme Representative of the Supreme Lodge.

The fruit and vegetable canning factory of H. S. Evans, situated near the depot, was established in the spring of 1883. All kinds of fruits and vegetables are canned in tin and glass. As many as one hundred hands are sometimes employed in the fruit season.

The shirt-factory of E. T. Danser was started in 1882. It employs thirty to forty hands. The building is forty by one hundred and ten feet in dimensions.

BLACK'S MILLS post village is a small settlement or hamlet in the southern part of the township, on the Manalapan and Freehold turnpike road.

How long prior to 1823 there was a grist-



mill at the locality now called Black's Mills is not known, but in that year a mill was owned there by Thomas and John Black, of Burlington, N. J. On the 26th of January, the next year (1824), they purchased the water-power of Manapalan River of Jonathan Forman, and soon after purchased other rights. The mill was enlarged and a saw-mill added, and both were run by them for many years. During this time a tavern was opened there and kept by one Nailor. The mills passed to Esek Hartshorne, who (April 1, 1841) sold them to Simon Abrahams, who was then keeping the tavern. From Abrahams it passed, in December, 1847, to Thomas and John Black, who, on the 1st of April, 1859, sold the property to the present owner, Charles H. Snyder, who had previously run the mill for several years. The tavern was kept, after Abrahams, by Joseph I. Thompson. After the purchase of the mill by Mr. Snyder, and the building of his new house, the old tavern-house was moved up the hill and on the opposite side of the street, and has since been used for various purposes. The grist-mill has been enlarged and improved, and is now four stories in height and contains machinery for making flour by the roller process, with a capacity of seventy-five barrels of flour in twenty-four hours. The water-power of the Manapalan River is used, and also an engine of forty-horse power as an auxiliary.

In 1840, James Lloyd established a store at the Mills. Later, he removed to Freehold, but returned to Black's Mills Corners, where he built a store and kept several years. John I. McDowell, about 1844, also built a store at the Corners, on the site of the present store, and kept it several years. It has been kept since 1856 by S. W. Reed, who has acted as assistant postmaster from that time. The post-office was established June 1, 1856, and Charles S. Jewell was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by James Van Brackle, L. P. Clayton and T. D. Probasco, the present incumbent.

A Methodist Church was organized at Black's Mills about 1823, and a church building erected, which was also used as a school-house. On the 28th of August, 1846, John Imlay, Wesley Gill

and James Connelly, trustees of the church, sold the property to James Reed.

MANALAPANVILLE village, or, more properly, hamlet, lies on the Manalapan and Freehold turnpike road, and on the township line of Manalapan and Millstone. A hotel was opened here fifty or sixty years ago. It passed, in 1859, from the estate of James H. Clayton to Jacob C. Clayton; later, to Vincent W. Mount, who, in 1873, sold to L. G. Davison, the present owner. A post-office was established a few years ago, and the postmasters have been David Baird, N. W. Morris and D. A. Vanderveer. John Hunt opened a store about twenty years ago, which is now kept by J. B. Davison.

Near this place, in Millstone, is the Manalapan Presbyterian Church, Manalapan School-house and Bergen Mills.

AFRICA is a hamlet situated on the west line of the township. It was settled by a number of colored people prior to 1840. An African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized, and later a church edifice was erected. The society was incorporated August 9, 1843. The church still maintains its organization, and is well sustained by the colored people in the vicinity.

MILLS AND MANUFACTORIES.—On the west line of the township of Manalapan, a mile north from Smithburg, stands a woolen-factory that was built over fifty years ago by William Preston. In 1844 it was in possession of Asher Smith, at which time it had a pair of carding-machines and fifty spindles.

The mill was doing custom-work only, and manufactured cloths and blankets. It was destroyed by fire in 1846, and soon after was bought by George J. Miller and rebuilt. After a few years it was sold at public sale, and purchased by Asher Smith, by whom the business was continued until 1862, when it was rented by Robert S. Blain, who purchased it in 1866, and is the present owner.

On Wenroek Brook, near where the Manalapan and Freehold turnpike crosses it, a distillery was built by Elisha Combs before 1805. The distillery is still continued by James A. Per-







E. C. ALLEN

John R. Pettus



rine, who, in 1866, erected at the same place a grist-mill. It is known as Perrine's Mill.

The Lafayette or Matchett Mills site has been occupied by a mill nearly, if not quite, a hundred years. It was for many years, and up to 1844, owned by William Abrams, in which year it passed to Cornelius Matchett and Woodhull Johnson, who were in possession nineteen years. In 1877, Peter Jernee, the present owner, came into possession.

Taylor's Mill is situated on the Tephemus Brook, and the place is a very old mill-site. It has had many owners, among whom were Nathaniel Rue, Charles Higgins and Joseph Lutes, the last of whom sold to Joseph R. Taylor, who, in 1877, rebuilt the mill. The roller process of flouring is now used, and its capacity is fifty barrels in twenty-four hours. In addition to the water-power, a twenty-horse power engine is used.

The grist-mill now owned by James S. Parker, on the main head branch of Manalapan River, was built about 1835, by one Nesbit. Prior to that time it was a saw-mill, owned by David Van Schoick.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

**JOHN RUE PERRINE.**—Mr. Perrine enjoys the reputation of being in the foremost rank among those representatives of that branch of industry which enables Monmouth County to take a leading place among the agricultural counties of the United States. His paternal grandfather, John Perrine, was a Revolutionary soldier. His father, Major John Perrine, Jr., who served creditably as an officer in the War of 1812, was born July 22, 1782, in Monmouth County, where he cultivated a productive farm. He married Sarah, daughter of Allison Ely, whose children were Allison E., Barclay, Eleanor (Mrs. William T. Mills, of Brooklyn), John Rue, Lewis, Sarah Ann (Mrs. John T. Mills), James A. and Achsah (who died in youth). John Rue Perrine was born January 27, 1812, at Bergen's Mills, Millstone township, and received at home thorough instruction in the rudimentary English branches. At the age

of sixteen he removed to Manalapan township and engaged in the superintendence of his father's business, consisting chiefly of a farm and an extensive distillery. The latter, in 1837, purchased additional lands in Manalapan township, and in 1841, the farm on which the subject of this biographical sketch resides. Here he has since been engaged in farming. To say that Mr. Perrine is simply a farmer conveys but little idea of his agricultural undertakings, of the judgment and foresight indicated in his varied operations, and the success which has made his name a synonym for the most advanced and improved methods in his department of labor. Mr. Perrine was, on the 10th of March, 1842, married to Jane, daughter of William Van Dorn and Catharine Polhemus, of Marlboro' township. Their children are William Van Dorn, Catharine Polhemus, John, and Mary Patterson, of whom Catharine Polhemus is the only survivor. The death of Mrs. Perrine occurred on the 28th of August, 1877. A Democrat in his political proclivities, Mr. Perrine has declined all offices other than those connected with his township, which a praiseworthy degree of public spirit impelled him to accept. He has been identified with many important enterprises and wields an extended influence in connection with the business interests of the community. Mr. Perrine was educated in the faith of the Presbyterian Church, to which he still adheres.

**GARRET B. CONOVER.**—The great-grandfather of Mr. Conover was William, who had among his children a son Benjamin, whose children were three sons—William, Garret B. and Joseph—and several daughters. Garret B., the grandfather of the subject of this biography, for whom he was named, was born in Freehold township, where he was an industrious farmer. He married Lydia, daughter of Peter Forman, of Manalapan township, whose children were Benjamin G., Eleanor, Katy, Lena, Mary and Alice.

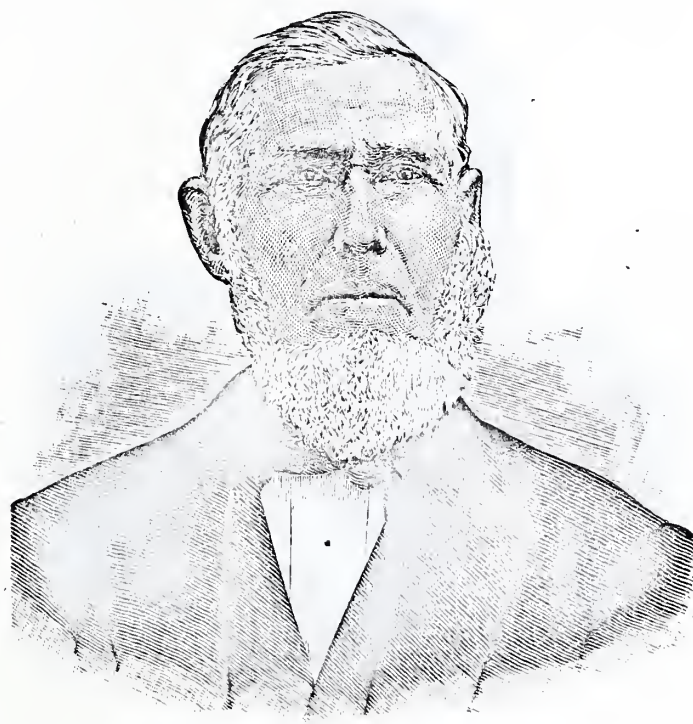
Benjamin G., of this number, was born in 1788, in Freehold township, and spent his life in the county of his birth. He married Eleanor, daughter of James Herbert, Esq., who





resided near Englishtown. Their children are James M., born in 1809; Garret B., October 24, 1811; Elizabeth (Mrs. Joseph Preston), in 1813; Peter F., in 1815; William, in 1817; Daniel, in 1820; and Lydia (Mrs. Joseph Johnson), in 1826. The birth of Garret B. occurred in Upper Freehold, though his youth was principally passed in Freehold and Raritan townships. He attended such schools as were to be found at Englishtown and Freehold, and having removed to his present farm, assisted

married Teresa, daughter of James I. Reid, of Manalapan (then Freehold) township. Their children are James, born in 1838 (deceased); Sarah Ellen (Mrs. James Craig), in 1839, who has one child; Catharine (Mrs. L. D. Bugbee), in 1841, who has two children; Jane Ann, in 1843; William, married to Elizabeth Rue, who has four children; Sidney (deceased); and Garret B., Jr., married to Adaline Duncan, who has four children. Mr. Conover was never active in politics. Though of Democratic ante-



*Garret B. Conover*

for some years in its cultivation. On the occasion of his father's death he assumed the management of the property, with the care of his mother and the younger children devolving upon him; though but twenty-two years of age, this responsible charge was met with a courage and cheerful spirit worthy of all praise. In 1835 he rented a farm in Manalapan township, to which he removed with the family, and afterwards purchased. In September, 1836, he

cedents he has been either an Old-Line Whig or a Republican, but not especially interested in questions of public policy. He has, however, been deeply interested in all that pertains to the cause of religion, and has been for twenty years an elder in Old Tennent Church, to which he has been a liberal contributor, and foremost in every enterprise involving its welfare. His prominence in all church-work has led to his being often chosen as delegate to the meetings of the Presbytery.



**THE DU BOIS FAMILY.**—This is not intended as a record of all the descendants of Louis Du Bois (the common ancestor, who was a French Huguenot refugee, and came to America in 1660) and Jacques Du Bois, who was supposed to have been his brother, and came to this country in 1675, as the family has become too numerous to make such an undertaking practicable; neither does it purpose to introduce at length the generation now upon the stage. The family have two genealogical records, from which

Normandy. It begins the genealogy with Geofroi du Bois, describing him as a knight banneret under William the Conqueror, whom he accompanied to the conquest of England, in 1066. It is carried on in seventeen generations in the eldest male line (all of whom are designated as Seigneurs and Chevaliers) to 1648. There is not the space to enter more fully into their history in France. The date of the birth of Christien (Christian) Du Bois, the father of Louis, is not known, as the records of Wieres



*Henry Du Bois*

a few notes are taken. The name Du Bois is composed of two French words, signifying "of the forest." It was used as an ancient family surname both in Artois and Normandy, before William the First, King of England, left his native shores, and has remained unchanged to the present day. In the heraldic records preserved in the Royal Library of Paris, under the head of "du Bois," it is expressly said that the family of that name is one of the oldest of the noble families of the bailiwick of Contentin, in

were almost illegible from age, bad ink and mutilation, the names of those who would not recant their faith being often intentionally erased. The baptismal dates of three of his children could be distinguished (18th June, 1622, 13th November, 1625, and 27th October, 1626), but not their names. Louis Du Bois was born at Wieres, near Lille, the chief town of Artois, in Northern France, October 27, 1626. He fled to Holland to escape religious persecution, and was married to Catharine Blanshan,





or Blanjean, October 10, 1655, at Mannheim, Germany, his wife being the daughter of a burgher of that place. Two sons were there born to them. They then emigrated to America, sacrificing everything to secure peace of mind and liberty of conscience, and first stopping at Hurley, then three miles from Kingston, N. Y., afterwards moving to New Paltz, N. Y. On their arrival Louis Du Bois is said to have reverently opened the old French Bible and read the Twenty-third Psalm, after which he led the

sketch being descended from Louis, the third child, who married Margaret Jansen on the 22d of May, 1720. He doubtless emigrated soon after their marriage, to West Jersey, where he acquired landed property amounting to one thousand and ninety-one acres.

Of their eleven children, Benjamin, next to the youngest son (the grandfather of the present Benjamin), was born March 30, 1739, and married Phæbe Denise. For sixty-three years he was pastor of the Freehold and Middletown Re-



*Livingston DuBois*

assembled colony in a prayer of thanksgiving and supplication. One of the first efforts of the Huguenot band was to build a church (a rude affair of logs) upon the lot now occupied by the stately edifice of the First Reformed Church of Kingston, founded by Hasbronek, Du Bois and Lefevre. The children of Louis Du Bois were ten in number. The Du Boises of Monmouth County are descended through the third son, Jacob, his wife having been Geritje Gerritsen. They had eleven children, the subject of this

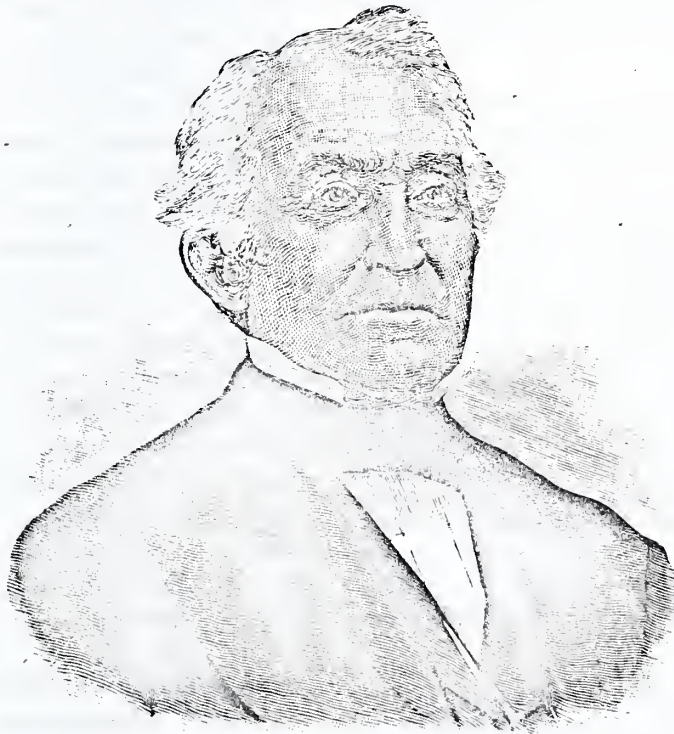
formed Churches. The dominie left ten children, five of whom emigrated to Franklin, Ohio. Tunis Du Bois, his son, was born February 23, 1773; his first wife was Sarah Van Derveer, their children being four in number. His second wife was Sarah Smock, of whose seven children five sons and one daughter are now living, and settled in Monmouth County. The spirit of the old Huguenot, Louis, who left his native land for conscience' sake, seems, in some measure, to have descended to his posterity. In Penn-



sylvania, three have been known as ministers of the gospel ; in New Jersey, one ; in New York, at least two ; and in Ohio, one.

Henry Du Bois, son of Tunis D. Du Bois and his wife, Sarah Smock, was born April 4, 1808, in Freehold township, upon the farm where the years of his childhood were spent. After receiving, at the public school, instruction in the English branches, he began farming with his father, and continued thus employed until twenty-four years of age. He was, on the

Mary E. Thompson ; and Maggie A. Mr. Du Bois, on the occasion of his first marriage, purchased the farm in Manalapan township which is his present residence. Here he has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits, though impaired health has precluded active labor. He was formerly interested in local politics, as a Democrat, and for many years filled the office of commissioner of appeals, as also school trustee of the township. He has been for years a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society.



*Benjamin DuBois*

18th of April, 1832, married to Margaret, daughter of Peter Conover, of Matawan. Their children are Peter C. (deceased), married to Anna Virginia Corson ; Sarah M. (deceased) ; Mary C. (Mrs. Lafayette G. Schenck) ; John R., married to Anna D. Spader ; Tunis D., married to Sarah E. Smock. Mrs. Du Bois died July 13, 1848, and he married again, on the 12th of February, 1851, Ursula P., daughter of Christian Probasco, of Atlantic township. Their children are Jacob V. N., married to

Mr. Du Bois has, during his active life, been a man of much industry, and is ranked among the most prosperous farmers of his township. He is a member of the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Freehold, in which he was formerly both elder and deacon.

Benjamin Du Bois, the second son of Tunis D. and Sarah Smock Dubois, a resident of Manalapan township, was born May 10, 1810, and on the 1st of February, 1832, was married to Helena Wikoff. He is a successful farmer





in Manalapan township and among its most representative citizens.

Livingston Du Bois, the youngest brother of Henry and Benjamin Du Bois, also of Manalapan township, was born April 18, 1827, on the homestead in Marlboro', now occupied by Tunis V. Du Bois, where in childhood he attended the district school, and until twenty-five years of age gave his attention to the labor connected with the cultivation of his father's land. He was married, December 6, 1854, to Mary T., daughter of George Hunt, of Manalapan township, the ceremony having occurred in the residence at present occupied by him. Their children are William H., John Henry (married, March 4, 1884, to Anna V. Conover), George L., Joseph Ely, Wilson G. (deceased), Anna H. and Frank B. Mr. Du Bois after his marriage resided for one year at the home of his father-in-law, and at the expiration of this period purchased a farm in Manalapan township, which he cultivated for twelve years. He then became the owner, by purchase, of the Hunt homestead, on which he now resides. A Democrat in his political faith, he has declined office other than frequent service as member of the township committee of Manalapan. This office—a very onerous and responsible one during the late civil war—entailed great responsibility in the filling of the township quota and the securing of substitutes. Mr. Du Bois' activity and zeal on this occasion elicited from his fellow-townsmen much praise. He is identified by membership with the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. In religion he is a Baptist, and connected as a member with the Freehold Baptist Church, of which he has been at various times a trustee.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### RARITAN TOWNSHIP AND THE TOWN OF KEYPORT.

RARITAN is the northernmost township of Monmouth County, having Raritan Bay as its northern boundary. On the east it is bounded by the township of Middletown, on the south

by Holmdel and on the west and northwest by Matawan township and creek and by Raritan Bay. Several small streams flow northwardly through the township into Raritan Bay, the principal of which are Wakake, Chingarora and Lupatcong Creeks, the last two named entering the bay at the town of Keyport. The New York and Long Branch Railroad crosses the southwest corner of the township, and the Freehold and Keyport Railroad enters the last-named town from Matawan. The population of Raritan township by the United States census of 1880 was three thousand eight hundred and ninety-one,—this including the town of Keyport.

Raritan township (taken from the territory of Middletown) was erected in 1848 with the following described boundaries, viz.:

“Beginning at Tanner's Landing, on the shore of Raritan Bay; thence running southerly along the new road, near Thomas Arrowsmith's, to the road leading from the village of Middletown to Keyport; thence along the road by Daniel D. Hendrickson's to the corner of John P. Luyster's and William H. Hendrickson's land; thence westerly to the road running by Hendrick V. Luyster's; thence along the said road to the road leading from Middletown to Holmdel; thence along the road by John Golden to the corner of lands of Ann Ogborn, deceased; thence following the road through Morrisville to the road leading from Holmdel to Leedsville; thence southerly to the Atlantic township line between the lands of Joseph Conover and Aaron Van Mater; thence along the line of said Atlantic township in a westerly direction to the line of Freehold township; thence following the line between Freehold and Middletown townships to the line between the counties of Monmouth and Middlesex; thence down the said county line to Raritan Bay; thence along the shore of said Bay to the place of beginning.”

In 1857 a large portion of the territory of Raritan was taken to form the new townships of Matawan and Holmdel, erected by an act passed in that year. In the histories of those townships the boundaries are given of the territory thus taken from Raritan. The following is a list of chosen freeholders of Raritan township from its erection to the present time:

1848-50. Thomas Arrowsmith.

1848-52. William H. Hendrickson.

1853-56. Jonathan I. Holmes.

1857. Henry H. Seabrook.



1858-60. John Cottrell.  
 1861-62. Richard B. Walling.  
 1863. John Cottrell.  
 1864. Christian D. Emmons.  
 1865-66. Thomas S. R. Brown.  
 1867-69. Eusebius M. Walling.  
 1870. John M. Sproul.  
 1871-72. John Brittan.  
 1873. Theodore Aumack.  
 1874-76. Thomas S. R. Brown.  
 1877-78. Theodore Aumack.  
 1879-81. William C. Smith.  
 1882-83. Sidney Walling.  
 1884. George M. Britton.

The territory in Raritan and Middletown townships, extending along the bay from what is now Port Monmouth westward to Union City, was known as Wakake, or Weikey, and was first settled by Richard Hartshorne, who came to this country from London in September, 1669. His first purchase was at Wakake, where he settled, and from which place he mentioned himself as "Richard Hartshorne, of Weikey." It is evident that he lived there as early as May 24, 1670, as at that time he made a purchase which is recorded in the town-book of Middletown as follows:

"May 24, 1670: Memorandum Richard Hartshorne and John Hawes gave order the 27 off february to have this following writing Recorded . . . Viz.: Know all men by these presents: that I John Hawes now resident in the Towne of Middleton: in the province of New Jearsy: doe acknowledge to have sould unto Richard Hartshorne: now living in Weikey house in the afforesaid province: my house and lands: toghether with three or four acres of meadow for the summe of three hundred and fifty gilders: in part of wch I doe acknowledge to have receaved of the above said Richard Hartshorne: two hundred and twenty gilders: and further I the afforesaid John Hawes doe engage myselfe to make the above said house sufficient: by the last of Aprill next ensuing the date hereof: that is to say: I John Hawes am to daube the house within and without: and to make the chimney: and one Outlett: and to lay the floores (the above sd Richard Hartshorne finding boards and nailes and allsoe shells to make lime for the doing of the above said worke): and further I the afforesaid John Hawes am to make a cellar under the out lett: and allsoe one window in the house with foure lights: wherein I am to make shutts to the lower lights: all wch I doe engage myselfe to perfourme by the time above said: and in case of non perfourmance: to forfeit to the afforesaid Richard one hundred gilders: and further the afforesaid Richard Hartshorne doth

engage to pay unto mee John Hawes or to my Assignees one hundred and thirty gilders: when the afforesaid work is done: and further it is agreed betweene both parties: that I John Hawes shall enjoy the afforesaid land: soe long as his wife liveth: in case it bee desired: and in case the afforesaid John Hawes shall bee putt out of the house: wherein hee now liveth: then hee is to live in the house that hee hath now sould: during the time that his wife liveth: in case it bee desired: and after her decease the above said Richard Hartshorne is to enjoy the afforesaid house and land: both hee: and his heires forever: This agreement betweene both of us above written is: that the afforesaid John Hawes am to leave the house in as good condition: as it shall bee in: when it is finished according to agreement: and likewise the fence that is now about the ground all wch is agreed unto: both by John Hawes and his wife whereunto they have sett-[their hands and seals]."

The John Hawes here mentioned, lived at Wakake, as is shown by the action of a town-meeting held shortly after, in reference to giving him title to certain lands "in Weikey Neck." Before this purchase (May 9th, in the same year) it was ordered and agreed at a town meeting that "the land which now borders about Weikey necke shall be laid out into thirty-five lots."

Richard Hartshorne was not one of the original Monmouth patentees, but he became a patentee by the purchase of William Goulding's interest,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The following is the deed showing the sale of William Goulding, the patentee, to Richard Hartshorne:

"NOVEMBER 25: 1672.

"William Goulding of Graves End and Richard Hartshorne of Weikey in the Province of new Jearsey came this day Deelaring their consents: and order to have this following Deed Recorded; wch is as followeth: . . .

"This Presents witnesseth that I, William Goulding, of Graves End upon Long Island in the west riding of Yorkeshire: doe hereby acknowledge absolutely to have sould: assigned: and made over: for ever: from me: my heires: Executors: Administrators: and Assignes: all my right: title: interest: and Claime: unto a certaine tract and Parcell of land liing and beeing in middleton, in the Province of new Jearsey: and wch I sometimes bought of Pattentees of that tract of land: wherein the sayd middleton is inculed and knowne by the name of: (number 25) with the meadow Ground: and all privileges: and appurteanances: there unto belonging unto Richard Hartshorne of Weikey: in the same province: above said: his heires: Executors: Administrators: or assignes: and for him the said Richard to possess: and enjoy: in as large and ample manner in every respect: as I the said william: might or could by vertue of any





and the meeting of the patentees hereafter referred to was evidently held at his house, which had been built before the purchase from the Indians. The Indian deed was as follows :

May 22, 1676, Perropa Wawapa Emoras, Indians, "chiefe saehems of Ramsing, for a valuable sum of money in Indians' tradeing goods," paid by Richard Hartshorne, granted to him "a certaine parcell or tract of land lying in the province of New Jersey, being three necks of land, called by the Indians Wacake, Arowonoe, Conoskunck, and beginning at the easternmost side of Wacake Necke by the creek, and so up along the sd creek, called Wakecake Creek, about two miles or thereabouts, till you come about a quarter of a mile about or to the southwards of a piece of Meadow, called Walter Wall's meadow, which lies on the east side of Wakecake Creek, and from thence running westerly uppon a straight line to a great rock that is a little to the southeast of the Indian path that goes from Wakecake to the Indian town called Seaperkameeke," and westerly to a small creek. Northwest to an oak-tree which parts Wakecake and Arowonoe ; from thence southwest to a white-oak ; from thence west by north across the neck, called Arowonoe to an oak-tree, on the creek which divides "Arowonoe, Conoskunck, and from thence running over the creek, west by north across Conoskunck neck till it comes to the

purchase or grant from the said Patentees : and further I the said William Goulding doe acknowledge to have sould : and fully made over unto the aforesaid Richard : his heires : Executors : and assignes : all the privileges : the web I am at present possessed with in that patent : that is to say : my Patentteeshipp : for him in my place and stead : as need shall require to officiatte : and doe with the rest of the Patenttees : and to have all such priviledges profits : and benefitts : as is given to mee by Patent from his roiall highnes the Duke of Yorke : and his Debuty : or by vertue of any purchase from the Indians : and in consideration of the premises : I the said william : have received full and plenary satisfaction : part in hand : and part by bill : in wittnes hereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this twenty three day of the month called Aprill one thousand six hundred and seventy.

"WILLIAM GOULDING.

"Witnesses

"JAMES BOWNE,

"JOHN STOUTT.

"This is a true Copy Extracted out of the principall

"By Order

"EDWARD TARTT : Town cleark."

creek that parts Conoskunck and Chingarora, which said three necks are bounded by the bay to low-water mark."

Of the causes and incidents of this purchase Richard Hartshorne said, in a letter written soon afterwards,—

"The Indians came to my house and laid their hands on the post and frame of the house, and said that house was theirs ; they never had anything for it, and told me if I would not buy the land, I must be gone. But I minded it not, thinking it was Davis' land, and they wanted to get something of me ; they at last told me they would kill my cattle and burn my hay if I would not buy the land or begone ; then I went to the Patentees, which were James Grover, Richard Stout, John Bound [Bowne] and Richard Gibbons ; they told me it was never bought, nor had the Indians anything for it. Nichols desired of them and the Indians also only to have leave to set a trading-house, and at that time they did not intend any one should have the land, but keep it for the use of the country, always giving leave for any man to trade with goods and not otherwise ; but I told them I would not live on those terms, and not only so, but it was dangerous, for the Indians threatened to kill my cattle ; they told me, no man had power to buy but the patentees, and they would buy it ; thus it continued some months. I considered the thing as well as I then was capable, and went to Gravesend and bought William Goulder out, and when I came back the Indians were at me and I did. James Grover, Richard Stout, Samuel Spicer were at Wakecake, and paid for it, I being then a patentee as well as the rest."

He also says, in a private memorandum : "When Captain [Richard] Stout bargained with the Indians, he gave them a barrel of cyder, and I gave them an order for an anker of brandy, so that they should not drink it on the premises."

The land of Richard Hartshorne extended up Wakake Creek nearly to its head. On July 10, 1675, when the "southwest and southend parts of Mideeltowne" were bounded, the line was run "from the southendmost part of Richard Hartshorne's meadow, which was formerly Walter Wall's, which lyes at the head almost of Wakecake Creeke."

It will be remembered that the land embraced in the Indian deed was bounded southward by Walter Wall's meadow, so that it is evident that after 1672 he purchased land south of his original tract, which embraced Walter Wall's meadow. That Mr. Hartshorne remained at



"Weikee" until after 1700 is shown from the fact that, December 22d, in that year, the proprietors granted to William Lawrence, of Middletown, a tract of land on the east side of Wakake Creek, bounded by the creek and lands of Richard Hartshorne and "fifteen aeres of unappropriated sedge and meadow on ye east side of said creeke, from Hartshorne residence to ye mouth of ye creek. . . ."

During the most of his public life Mr. Hartshorne resided at Wakake; yet he was owner of a very large tract on the Navesink Highlands, which, in 1703, he gave to his son, William, who moved to, and resided at Portland, soon after which Richard Hartshorne moved to Middletown village, and built a house, which is still standing, and where he died in 1722.

The lands which William Lawrence purchased, consisting of two hundred and eighty acres, were left by him to his son, Elisha Lawrence, who moved to the place; and it is stated that he kept a store there, which was plundered by the pirates who infested the Raritan Bay. He sold this land, in 1717, to Thomas Kearney, who lived at what is now Keyport. A tavern was kept at Wakake, in 1699, by Samuel Willets. A landing was also made at the place a little distance up the creek from its mouth. Afterwards a dock or pier was built out into the bay from the shore below the mouth of the creek. This was called Tanner's Landing. It was used as late as 1820, having been for many years previously the principal landing and port of Monmouth County for passengers and freight. The first steamboat which ever came to Monmouth County ran up to this landing and Middletown Point. It was a side-wheel boat, commanded by Captain Penoyer.

The school districts of Raritan township are four in number, viz.: Keyport District, No. 49, (elsewhere more fully mentioned); Union District No. 50; Bethany District, No. 51; and Granville District, No. 52.

Union School District, No. 50, has fifty-six scholars. The first school-house in this section was built by the Florence and Keyport Company about 1850, soon after they began their operations. The same house is still used.

Bethany School District, No. 51, has one hundred and thirteen school children. The first school-house in this section was built on a knoll across the road from where the old Bethany Church stood. It was built about 1800. Alfred Walling, of Keyport, now deceased, said of it: "Fifty years ago I commenced my collegiate course in that old school-house. It was eighteen feet square, with eight feet posts and double-pitched roof. It was enclosed with pine boards and shingle roof. The side was filled in with common yellow clay by letting in slots or rungs to the posts or joists about nine inches apart to keep the clay in its place. This was the inside finish. It had five small, seven by nine, six-light windows. A stationary writing-desk was made on one side of the room, and common wooden benches without backs were the seats."

A new house was built in 1828 about one hundred yards north of the old one and on the same side of the street. This was used until the district was enlarged, taking in a part of Holmdel township. In 1871 the present school-house was built near the almshouse, and on the township line between Holmdel and Raritan.

As nearly as can be ascertained, Timothy Murphy was the first teacher in the old house. He was succeeded by Charles Kelly, a Catholic, who for many years taught a classical school in the first and second houses. He was succeeded by William Brown, Peter Van Derhoof and James McBirney. Mr. Kelly died in 1836, having taught school in this vicinity over forty years.

Granville School District, No. 52, includes a part of the township of Middletown. The first school-house was built many years ago on a lot of land donated by Andrew Wilson. It was used until 1871, when it was torn down and replaced by the present school-house. The district contains one hundred and forty children of school age.

GRANVILLE is a little village lying on the bay coast, and on the line between Raritan and

<sup>1</sup> In an article written by him in 1879.



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Middletown townships. It contains a store, a church, school-house and several dwellings. A post office named Keansburg was established at the place November 1, 1884, of which Mrs. W. W. Ramsay is postmaster. A post-office had been established earlier, of which Benjamin Wilson was postmaster. This was discontinued.

Near the place, and on the shore, are the works of the Uniontown Tile and Brick Company, whose office is 145 Broadway, New York. The large buildings of this company were erected in 1883, and ninety men employed. The works are now nearly completed. A boarding-house has been erected, and it is the intention of the company to employ two hundred men in 1885.

There is also on the shore a fertilizer factory, owned by Charles Preston, of Green Point, L. I. The building, three stories high, was erected in 1878. From ninety to one hundred men are employed when the works are in operation.

THE GRANVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1866, and the present chapel was erected in that year. The lot was purchased by ——— Tout, of New York, and donated to the society. The pulpit has been supplied mostly by students from Drew Theological Seminary. The pastors have been as follows: 1866-67, Rev. John B. Westcott, ——— Mead, ——— Owen; 1870, A. J. Garretson; 1874-75, W. W. Woodward; 1876, C. H. Mason; 1877-78, W. W. Ramsay; 1879-80, A. Lowry; 1881, J. M. Reed; 1882, P. K. White; 1883, H. W. Cheeseman; 1884, Edward Phreaner. The society has a membership of fifty-two.

Near Granville is the Waackaack Beacon, located on the east side of Wakake Creek. It is seventy-six feet above the level of the sea, and is supplied with a second order lens. It was built under an act of Congress approved August 31, 1852, and completed in 1856.

Hazlett Railroad Station and settlement is in the south part of Raritan township, near Old Bethany. A post-office was established there in 1876 and Rezo Schenck was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by the present postmaster, Walter T. Hoff. A hotel was erected in 1882 which is now kept by Richard Worrell.

UNION CITY, on Raritan Bay, northeast of Keyport, is located on land which was owned in the time of the Revolution by Peter Snyder and Colonel Richard Poole. The land at Union City, in comparatively recent years, extended half a mile out into the bay, to the Black Rocks, and there are those now living who remember planting corn where now are the waters of the bay. Vessels, not many years ago, came up Wales' Creek to what is known as Graham's Landing.

Union City came into existence through the operations of the Florence and Keyport Company, which was incorporated February 14, 1846, with a capital stock of two hundred thousand dollars, in two thousand shares of one hundred dollars each. The object of the company was to lay out a city on Raritan Bay, build docks, dwellings and roads, and establish a line of trade and travel from New York to Florence, on the Delaware River. There were fourteen stockholders, and Isaac S. Lloyd, of Florence, was chosen president. In 1852 the hotel (frame, four stories high) known as the Monmouth House was erected, a dock two thousand two hundred feet in length was built, a basin was formed for vessels, ten dwelling-houses were built, and also a large steam sawmill.

In that year also a Plank-Road Company was incorporated to build a road from Florence to Union City, and a two-mile section of the road was built. The "Armenia" steamer was chartered to run to the place from New York. The hotel was run by the company a year or two and then sold to William Quinlan, who, after a few years, leased it (in 1872) for ten years to John Mount, who kept it until 1882, since which time it has been vacant. No business is now done at Union City, and nothing remains of it but the name, the vacant hotel and a few dwellings.

#### THE TOWN OF KEYPORT.

Keyport, the principal town or village of Raritan township, is situated on Raritan Bay, between the mouth of Matawan Creek on the west and that of Chingarora Creek on the east. The site of Keyport was part of the large tract



owned by John Bowne, one of the Monmouth patentees. On the 21st of July, 1774, he sold to Thomas Kearney, of New York, merchant, two-thirds of one hundred and forty acres, and to Michael Kearney, also a merchant, of New York, the remaining one-third of the same tract, for sixteen hundred pounds. The land is described as lying at Chingarora, commencing at the mouth of "Lupakitongue" Creek, running south by west up the creek; from there north-westerly to the bay and along the coast to the place of beginning. This tract is now known as Brown's Point. The name is doubtless a corruption of *Bowne*, as no one now living recollects (nor is there any tradition) that any person named Brown was ever an owner or a settler there.

On the 13th of January, 1715, Thomas Kearney purchased of John Bowne a half-interest in forty acres of meadow-land on Lupaketongue Bay, and November 14th, the same year, he purchased a one-third interest in the one hundred and forty acres of Michael Kearney. On August 21, 1717, he purchased of Abraham Watson one hundred and twelve acres for one hundred and twenty pounds, bounded east, north and west by land formerly of John Bowne. Shortly afterwards he moved from New York to this place, as is proved by descriptions found in later deeds.

On the 19th of November, 1717, Thomas Kearney purchased of Elisha Lawrence several tracts of land for three hundred and twenty pounds,—one of two hundred and eighty acres adjoining Richard Hartshorne, at Wakake, six acres adjoining Steven Arnold and son to the beach (this last tract was purchased by Lawrence November 26, 1698, of John Crawford), a tract of forty acres on the west side of the brook that leads to Wakake Creek, a tract of eight acres and another of ten acres on the east side of Wakake Creek, and fifteen acres of sedge and meadow, also on the east side of the creek. On the 18th of November, 1717, he (Kearney) purchased of Richard Salter an undivided half of an undivided twenty-fourth part of the property, then belonging to the proprietors. This interest came to Richard Salter by will from John Bowne. On the 8th of February, 1717, Kearney

purchased of Lawrence Smith forty acres of land in the vicinity.

These lands aggregated six hundred and forty-five acres, which Kearney had purchased within three years. On this property he erected a house, which for generations has been known as the Kearney homestead. In a road record of 1768 mention is made of a road that led "to Major Kearney's," upon a hill called "Wolf-Pit Hill." This hill was doubtless the elevation on which the Kearney house now stands, on land of Thomas Kearney's first purchase. The "Major Kearney" here referred to was the Major Philip Kearney of whom frequent mention is made in the annals of the Revolution.

The lands mentioned above do not embrace the part of Keyport lying east of the Lupatong Creek. The Kearney estate was added to by later generations, and embraced at one time over nine hundred acres. The Kearney plantation was named Keygrove Farm and was so known for many years. The point, prior to the Revolution and down to 1829 was known as "Fishing Point." It was celebrated as the home of the Chingarora oysters, which were free to all. Nearly every farmer for miles around owned clam-rakes and oyster-tongs, and obtained a part of his living from the bay.

James Kearney, a descendant of Thomas, and owner of the estate, died in Richmond County, N. Y., January 17, 1811, aged sixty-one years. He was buried on this estate, in the family vault. Edmund Kearney then came into possession, and moved to the place in the April following, and at his death, December 25, 1822, was in possession of this property, then embracing seven hundred and eighty-one acres. It was described as being "divided into many fields and pastures, all included by an exterior boundary fence, and by the creeks or rivulets forming with the shore on Raritan or Prince's Bay the exterior boundary thereof." A part of the estate was fine, arable land, but the greater part was covered with a heavy growth of valuable timber.

This large tract of land, by reason of its timber and its coast advantages attracted the attention of business men as an excellent place to







establish a town. James P. Kearney<sup>1</sup> one of the heirs-at-law, came of age the next day after his father's death, and on the 9th of December, 1823, he mortgaged his interest to William Forman for money loaned. This not being paid in 1829, and Kearney being then in neccessitous circumstances, conveyed (April 15, 1829) all his right, title and interest in the property to Daniel Holmes and John W. Holmes, who made application to the Orphans' Court for a division of the estate. It is stated that the purchase by the Holmeses was for the purpose of bringing about a sale, that a port town might be established. In accordance with their application, the Orphans' Court, at the April term of 1829, appointed James Hopping, Edward Taylor and Leonard Walling commissioners to divide the estate. These commissioners reported, July 10, 1829, that they had caused a map of the estate to be made, and after viewing it, were of the opinion that a division could not be made without great prejudice to the owners. Upon this report the court ordered the commissioners to make sale of the property at public auction. The sale was made on the 3d and 4th of November, 1829, to the following-named purchasers :

- Lot No. 1, 224.82 acres, Isaac K. Lippincott.
- Lot No. 2, 56.42 acres, Thomas Carhart.
- Lot No. 3, 32.85 acres, Amos Walling.
- Lot No. 4, 18.43 acres, Jonathan Tilton.
- Lot No. 5, 59.52 acres, Ezra Osborn, Esq.
- Lot No. 6, 56.24 acres, Ezra Osborn, Esq.
- Lot No. 7, 48.46 acres, Isaac K. Lippincott.
- Lot No. 8, 24.11 acres, Richard C. Burrowes.
- Lot No. 9, 7.34 acres, Isaac K. Lippincott.
- Lot No. 10, 16.51 acres, Ezra Osborn.
- Lot No. 11, 59.13 acres, James Sproul.
- Lot No. 12, 26.02 acres, Thomas J. Walling.
- Lot No. 13, 49.42 acres, Amos Walling.
- Lot No. 14, 40.35 acres, Joseph Carhart.
- Lot No. 15, 61.34 acres, Horatio Kearney.

The sales amounted to nineteen thousand nine hundred and forty-one dollars and nineteen cents, deeds to be given April 1, 1830, when one-half of the purchase money was to be paid, and remainder on April 1, 1831.

At the time of this sale it was suspected that

parties from Middletown Point, fearful that Fishing Point Lot, No. 8, might be purchased for the purpose of building a dock, had come there with the intention of buying it, that it might remain unimproved, and thus leave Middletown Point without a commercial rival on Raritan Bay. Upon this, two or three men, with a view of the practicability of a dock at the place, decided to buy Lot No. 8, which was done on the second day of the sale. Others then joined with them and purchased other contiguous lots. No thought of a dock company was had before the sale, but circumstances rapidly developed such a project, and brought about the formation of a Dock and Improvement Company, of which the following-named were the original members. Leonard Walling, Joseph Taylor, John I. Taylor, Davis S. Bray, John Hopping, James Hopping and Isaac K. Lippincott. The object of this company was to secure Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, which was done, and others were also obtained afterwards. On the 9th of April, 1830, the place was surveyed and laid out into twenty-four lots by Leonard Walling, "near the fishing-point on the easterly side of Brown's Point Cove."

In February, 1830, a road or highway was laid out from the Middletown village and Mount Pleasant road to this new settlement and in the proposed village plat made in April following, it is laid down as passing between Lots No. 8 and 21. Lot No. 8 was known as the "Fishing Point Lot."

The lands secured by the company amounted to more than two hundred acres. In 1830 a dock was constructed on the site of the present Keyport Dock. A large store-house was erected in the same year. The dock and the store-house were in charge of Leonard Walling, who also built a residence here in 1830. In the spring of 1831 the place first received the name of Keyport. In 1832 a tavern-house was built and opened to the public. In the same year the sloop "New Jersey," of fifty tons, was built, eight miles below, on Compton's Creek, and was put on to run from the dock to New York, under command of James Hopping. The next vessel was put on in 1836, and was soon followed by others

<sup>1</sup> Edward Kearney left eight children,—Thomas, Anne, Catharine, Anastasia, Horatio, James P., John and Mary.



which ran from Keyport to New York, carrying market supplies and produce, which had then begun to come in large quantities from the interior to Keyport for shipment. From this time the shipping business of the port at Middletown Point began to decline, and finally ceased altogether.

The old Kearney homestead was purchased by Isaac K. Lippincott, who owned it for many years. It is now occupied by Mrs. Barnes. In 1833, Isaac K. Lippincott erected the first store of Keyport, and the same year Nimrod Bedle and Lewis Morris built dwelling-houses. On the 21st of May, 1832, the company divided sixteen of the twenty-four lots among the individual members. At that time the company consisted of James and John Hopping, Ezra Osborn, John I. Taylor, David L. Bray, Leonard Walling, Joseph Taylor and Isaac K. Lippincott.

In November, 1829, Septimus Stevens was landlord of a tavern at Brown's Point, which was about one-quarter of a mile from the new proposed village, and the Kearney sale was held at his house. The new tavern was erected on Lot No. 5.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Brown's Point (Keyport),—"There are here a good landing, two taverns, three stores and twelve or fifteen dwellings." A statement in the *Monmouth Democrat* of 1837 says Keyport then had less than twenty houses and about one hundred population. In 1846 Keyport contained seventy dwellings, two stores, one good public-house, two docks or wharves and ten or twelve mechanic shops, besides other buildings. The property retained by the company at the division, in 1832, was sold, February 25, 1839, to Oliver Vanderbilt for seven thousand dollars, embracing fifteen acres, with all the buildings and improvements.

The site of Lockport was purchased at the sale of November 3 and 4, 1829, by James Sproul. It was nick-named Lockport in the early days, and was separated from the other land by Necius Pond, which is now entirely filled up and built over. Bedle's mill is on the pond. In 1844 there were one hundred houses upon it.

The dock was built by the Keyport Company in 1830, as before mentioned. They also built two sloops,—the "New Jersey" and the "Middle-town,"—which were run from Keyport to New York. As business increased others were added. On February 29, 1839, the company sold their docks and business to Oliver Vanderbilt, of Castleton, Richmond County, N. Y., for seven thousand dollars. A line of stages was established in 1836 to run from Keyport to Long Branch, and on May 2, 1839, the low-pressure steamboat "Wave," commanded by Captain Joseph Stoney, commenced making regular trips to New York, and in the next year a line of stages, to connect with the "Wave," was established to run from Keyport to Freehold; the stage-office was at the hotel of William Jacques (the Pavilion).

The property passed to other hands, and on February 19, 1851, the Keyport Dock Company was incorporated. The docks were rebuilt, and the steamer "Minnie Cornell" was built to run to New York for both passengers and freight. It is still in use. A large amount of market produce is shipped daily from this dock.

The Farmers' Transportation Company was chartered November 20, 1865. The incorporators were mostly farmers of Holmdel township, who had large quantities of produce to ship. Joseph Rose was chosen president, and Rufus Ogden secretary. The present dock was built and the steamer "Holmdel" placed on the line. The dock and business was sold, in 1878, to G. W. Walling, superintendent of police of New York, who now owns it.

The Chingarora Dock Company was organized in 1846, and built the dock called Chingarora Dock. The company was incorporated February 2, 1851. The "Golden Rule" and other sloops were built and put on the line. About 1875 the property passed to Captain George W. Johnson, and in 1881 to T. S. R. Brown, who now owns it.

One of the first enterprises of the old Keyport Company was the building of the hotel in 1832, as before noticed. Its location was on Front Street, nearly opposite the present post-office, on the site of John Sproul's bakery. It was kept by







Primrose Hopping until about 1834. He was succeeded by Tobias S. Hendrickson. The hotel was named the Atlantic. On September 1, 1842, Tunis J. Ten Eyck, who had kept a public-house at Middletown Point, became landlord of the hotel. He was succeeded by John L. Doty, who was succeeded, in 1846, by Joseph J. Reeves, who kept it for a few years. After he retired it was kept by several, until its destruction by the fire of September 21, 1877. Jesse Coldrick, of Tom's River, had leased the property and was moving in at the time of the fire. It was not again rebuilt.

In 1840, William Jacques built the Pavilion Hotel, and kept it until his death, July 4, 1849, while engaged in firing a salute. The property passed to Elisha Thomson, by whom it was operated until destroyed by the fire of 1851. Mr. Thomson died the week after the fire and the property was purchased by D. L. F. Schenck and rebuilt. It is now kept by Jacob Sickles.

The Mansion House was built by George Davison, of Burlington, N. J., who rented it. It was destroyed by fire in 1877 and rebuilt. It is now carried on by — Van Mater.

The first grist-mill at Keyport was built in 1856 by Andrew McDowell. It is now owned by Stephen G. Lambertson. In 1867, James M. Burrowes and James Bedle erected the mill, now owned by James Bedle, on the site of Necius Pond.

On the site of the armory building, several years before that was erected, Uriah H. Dudley erected a canning-factory, which was used for a time, then burned, rebuilt and again destroyed by fire in February, 1877. Later, the citizens donated to Austin Nichols & Co., of New York, a lot of land on which to erect a canning-factory, which was built and continued until its destruction by fire, in 1880. The lot now belongs to the village.

The Keyport post-office was established at Keyport March 12, 1833, with Leonard Walling postmaster. Captain Joseph D. Hoff had at that time opened a store on Front Street, nearly opposite the present post-office, and the office was then kept in this store, with Captain Hoff as assistant postmaster. In 1835, Captain Hoff sold the business to Henry Seabrook, who was

appointed postmaster and served until 1856, when Dr. J. E. Arrowsmith was appointed and served until 1861, when Rufus Ogden, the present postmaster, was appointed.

The great pier of the Freehold and New York Railway at Keyport, which was built by that corporation in 1880, is a really magnificent structure, though at the present time very little business is done on it. It was built at the Keyport terminus of the railway, and extends out into Raritan Bay for a distance of nearly two thousand feet. No expense was spared to make the pier substantial, and to fully adapt it to the uses which it was intended to subserve. As it is a fine specimen of engineering skill, peculiarly unique in its construction (there being no other pier similar to it in this or any other country), a minute description of the structure is here given.

Crossing First Street, on the east side of the town of Keyport, at a point about midway between Myrtle Avenue and Cedar Street, the railway runs, parallel with the two last-mentioned streets, down to the shore of Raritan Bay. The company purchased of the State the riparian right to the bay-shore between Myrtle Avenue and Cedar Street. Bulkheads were erected along the shore extending one hundred and fifty feet outward into the bay, giving what is called the "bulkhead privileges," and furnishing excellent advantages for loading and unloading small craft, such as sloops, schooners, canal-boats, etc. The depth of water at the outer edge of the bulkheads at mean high water is about eight feet, and at high water steamboats can have no difficulty in making a landing there. The pier proper begins about seventy-five feet back of high-water line and extending out into the bay eighteen hundred and twenty-five feet, then deflects to the right, making a total length of nineteen hundred and twenty-five feet. For a distance of thirteen hundred feet from the shore end the structure is eighteen feet in width, fourteen feet being occupied by the railway, and four feet by a foot-walk, which runs along the east side of the pier, protected by a guard-rail, three feet high, extending along the easterly edge as a protection



against falling overboard into the water below. As has been already stated, the pier for thirteen hundred feet from the shore end is wide enough only to admit of a single track and a footway. Beyond that it gradually broadens for a distance of two hundred and sixty feet, and becomes forty-eight feet in width. The object of securing this additional width is to provide space for the laying of two side-tracks. The one on the west, or left side, leaves the main track first and furnishes some two hundred feet or more of parallel track before reaching the wharf proper, this to be used as a siding for unloading freight by gravity from the cars into scows, barges and other small craft. The east side-track leaves the main track at a point further forward, and becomes parallel therewith when it reaches the wharf proper. The construction of the pier for the two hundred and sixty feet referred to is of the same general character, in respect to bents, stringers, footway, etc., as that of the thirteen hundred feet already described.

The wharf proper begins fifteen hundred and sixty feet from the commencement of the pier, and is constructed as follows: The structure at this point broadens to a width of sixty-five feet, extending twenty-seven and one-half feet to the west of the main track and thirty-seven and one-half feet to the right of the same. It thus admits of three platforms,—the first twenty-two and one-half feet in width, situated on the westerly side, and to be used for freighting purposes; the second being a passenger platform ten and one-half feet in width, between the main track and the easterly siding; the third being a freight platform thirteen and one-half feet wide, and located just to the right of the easterly side-track. The bents of this portion of the pier reach the great length of sixty-five feet.

The forward end of the pier extends in a northeasterly direction, at an angle of thirty degrees with the main structure, so as to conform to the direction of the channel of the bay, as well as to the course which the boat is to take in approaching or leaving the dock. This end of the pier is provided with two chutes for passenger purposes, the intention having been to make this part of the pier the main landing for

passengers. On each corner of the wharf proper are immense mooring or belaying piles, while at convenient intervals along the string piece are iron belaying-cleats. The outer end of the pier is projected to the northeast some eighty feet, forming a wing thirty-three feet wide by eighty feet long. The northwest face of the pier is one hundred and thirty-four feet in length. The extreme end of the wing, which is more exposed to the action of the waves and storms than any other portion of the structure, is protected by extra piling.

Mention has already been made of the fact that the piling averages fourteen by sixteen inches in diameter. In length the piles vary according to the depth of the mud into which they are driven. Beginning at the shore with twenty-five feet lengths, they gradually increase as they extend outward to seventy, eighty and even eighty-five feet. They were all driven down to a firm foundation, chiefly of clay, by means of one of Ross & Sanford's steam pile-drivers, with a hammer weighing three thousand three hundred pounds. As the ordinary hammer used for such purposes is from sixteen hundred to two thousand pounds weight, one can faintly imagine what gigantic force was brought to bear upon these piles in order to secure that remarkable stability which characterizes the whole structure. The work of constructing this immense pier was commenced on the 20th of May, 1880, and was finished in the following August.

The building of vessels was one of the first industries in Keyport. In 1831, John Cottrell established a yard on Brown's Point and continued for twenty years. It is still carried on by his son, Francis Cottrell. In 1832, Roosevelt & Hoff established a yard on the lot now occupied by Warn's drug-store, where they built for three years. B. C. Terry carried on the business first at Brown's Point and afterwards at Lockport, where the business is still conducted by Mrs. Terry. In April, 1854, he had on the stocks three first-class ferry-boats and two steamboats. From 1866 to 1869 no work was done, but in 1870 business was resumed.







The first physician who settled in Keyport was Dr. John Griggs, who came about 1833 and remained until 1848. Dr. J. E. Arrowsmith, still a resident of the village, became a resident in 1845. Dr. Wilmer Hodgson settled in 1870; Dr. George T. Welsh in 1874.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF KEYPORT, now only about one year old, is the result of efforts which have been made, at different times for nearly half a century, to secure the establishment of a banking institution at Keyport. The first of these efforts was made in December, 1836, when notice was given that application would be made to the Legislature of New Jersey for a bank with \$50,000 capital, to be called the People's Bank, and located at Keyport. This effort failed, and another was made in 1854; again in 1858; and again in 1859 and 1862; but all efforts to establish a bank at this place failed until April 23, 1884, when the First National Bank of Keyport was chartered. A lot was procured on Front Street and a brick banking-house, twenty-three by forty-five feet, was erected. Business was begun on September 1, 1884. The following are the officers of the bank: Directors, Michael Taylor (president), George W. Walling, Ezra A. Osborn, T. S. R. Brown, Thomas Aumack, John W. Keough, Chrineyonce S. Holmes, John W. Hoff, Alfred Walling, Jr.; Cashier, Garrett S. Jones; Assistant Cashier, A. W. Brown.

MICHAEL TAYLOR.—John Taylor, who was of English extraction, and a Friend by birth-right, resided in Chesterfield township, Burlington County, where, during the War of the Revolution, he followed his trade of a weaver and was also a prosperous farmer. To his wife, a Miss De Cou, were born children,—Marmaduke, Thomas, Jedediah, Isaiah, Phoebe (Mrs. Dowell), Sarah (Mrs. Applegate), Maria (Mrs. Woolman) and Caroline (Mrs. Ross). Isaiah Taylor was born in Chesterfield township in 1789, and during his lifetime continued the occupations of a farmer, having married Sarah, daughter of John Hall, of the same township, whose children were Albert, deceased; John, deceased; Edna (Mrs. Robert Gillam), deceased; Susan, who married, first, Jonathan

Williams, and, second, John Snyder; Maria, deceased; Michael; Charles, of Burlington County; and Joseph, of Bordentown. Michael Taylor was born at Recklesstown, Chesterfield township, Burlington County, on the 15th of May, 1820, in the dwelling which was also the place of his mother's birth. Having spent the first twelve years of his youth with his parents, he became a member of the family of Margaret Allison, of Burlington, N. J., a Quaker preacher, who married Benjamin Parker, of Shrewsbury, to which township she later removed. Here he remained until the age of sixteen, when, desiring to be independent by the mastery of a trade, he chose that of a blacksmith, and having completed his apprenticeship, removed to Red Bank for one year in the capacity of a journeyman. He then established a business and continued it until 1848, when, changing his vocation to that of an agriculturist, he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres on Rumson Neck, in the same county. Selling this property ten years later, at an advance, he made a second purchase at Cream Ridge, in Upper Freehold township, and remained eleven years at this point, when an advantageous offer induced him to part with the land, and Middletown became his home. This farm was three years after sold to D. D. Withers, Esq., at an advance, and after a brief interval spent at Red Bank, Mr. Taylor, with his family, removed to his present location, familiarly known as the John H. Holmes farm, and among the most valuable in the county. Michael Taylor was, on the 4th of October, 1842, married to Sarah, daughter of Captain Hendrick H. Bennett and his wife, Elizabeth Heyer. Their children are Elizabeth B., widow of Henry D. Probascio; Evelina; Charles A., married to Mary K. Thompson; Henry B. deceased, married to Emma Van Valkenburgh, of New York; Sarah E.; Emma H., wife of William H. Reid; Maria L., wife of Henry E. Armstrong; George McC., married to Julia Whiting; Julia, wife of John W. Hance; Charlotte H.; Frank; and Clarence, deceased.

Mr. Taylor has always been in his political predilections an active and pronounced Demo-





*Michael Taylor*





crat, and an influential representative of his party in the county. He was chosen representative to the State Legislature from 1862 to 1865, and during the latter year was, on the occasion of a tie vote, nominated for Speaker by his party. He has also served as freeholder and in various other township offices. He is a member, and was instrumental, with others, in founding the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, of which he was for two years president. He is president

invaluable as administrator and counselor, and all important issues affecting the township or county have received both encouragement and substantial aid from him. His religious sympathies are with the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Holmdel, of which several of the family are members, and to which he is a liberal contributor.

GEORGE W. WALLING is the grandson of



*George W. Walling*

of the First National Bank of Keyport, and was formerly director of the Princeton Fire Insurance Company. He is a director of the Monmouth Park Railroad, and, together with Nathaniel S. Rue, Samuel Stockton and ex-Governor Fort, was one of the projectors of the Pemberton and Hightstown Railroad, for which he secured the charter while a legislator. Mr. Taylor's known business capacity and acknowledged integrity have made his services

Daniel D. Walling, a Revolutionary soldier, and his wife, Helena Hoff. His father was Leonard Walling, who married Catharine Aumack, of Middletown (now Raritan) township. Their son, George W. Walling, was born near Keyport, Monmouth County, on the 1st of May, 1823, and in 1832 removed with his father to Keyport, where he received such instruction as the schools of the place afforded. He then entered the latter's store, and later



embarked upon a schooner sailing for Virginia. He also, at a subsequent date, spent occasional winters in North Carolina, superintending his father's interest in that State. On the death of the latter he resumed the life of a mariner, both on the Hudson River and on Long Island Sound. During the year 1845 he was engaged in the revenue service on the steamer "Spencer." The removal of Mr. Walling to New York, in September, 1847, greatly influenced his later career, and eventually brought him into prominent notice in connection with the municipal police. He was, December 22d of that year, appointed to the position of patrolman on the New York police force. He was reappointed for four years, and during this time was detailed as stage inspector. On the 30th of September, 1853, he was promoted to the position of captain of the Eighteenth Ward, and continued thus to act until 1866, having meanwhile been detailed to harbor service at Seguines Point. He was, November 21, 1866, made inspector, having meanwhile had charge of the detective office and made many important arrests, notably those in connection with the crime of counterfeiting. On the 23d of July, 1874, Inspector Walling was made superintendent, which office he continues to fill with satisfaction to the people. In his long career the superintendent has had many hair-breadth escapes, participating, as he did, in nearly every riot that raised its bloody and destructive hand in the city of New York since 1847.

In person, Superintendent Walling is tall and muscular, but without any superabundance of flesh. He has a decided military bearing, a firm but kindly face, a keen, bright eye that sparkles when interested in conversation or when listening to the details of some fresh crime, and laying his plans for the capture of the criminal.

Superintendent Walling was, on the 30th of January, 1854, married to Sarah Rosina, daughter of William Bennet, of Long Island. Their children are Ada (deceased), wife of Henry Cuppia; George (deceased); Edward S., a policeman; Leonard B.; Frank; Theresa (deceased); William; Herbert (deceased); and Percy. The superintendent is a Republican in politics,

but takes no active part in the political movements of the times. He is identified with the business interests of his former home as a director of the First National Bank of Keyport. His religious sympathies are with the Baptist Church.

The first successful newspaper of Keyport was the *Keyport Press*, which was established in 1863. In the previous year B. F. Underwood, F. D. Woodruff and Jacob R. Smith started a job printing office on Front Street, Keyport, under the firm-name of Underwood & Co. September 24, 1863, they founded the *Keyport Press*, a three-column, semi-monthly paper, which, after running about six months, ceased to be issued, the enterprise proving a failure. Mr. Underwood withdrew from the business, which was continued by Smith & Woodruff until 1866, when they sold out to G. W. & C. S. Henderson, who founded the *Weekly Star* on March 7, 1866. Its publication was continued but a short time, and the office came back to Smith & Woodruff's hands. Mr. Woodruff bought Mr. Smith out in March, 1867, and in January, 1871, sold out to Dr. Wilmer Hodgson, who immediately started the *Keyport Weekly*. December 9, 1871, he sold out to E. McKinney & Brother. January 1, 1877, W. F. Le Roy bought the office. The office was sold to Charles E. Close & Co., April 9, 1881, but on account of the dissatisfaction of the advertisers and subscribers, Mr. Le Roy resumed control the next week, but sold out to Gilmore & Clay, October 22, 1881. They sold the office to Mr. Le Roy, June 22, 1882, when the paper was run by his sons, M. D. & H. D. Le Roy, until December 1, 1882, when it was purchased by the present proprietor, E. D. Petteys.

The *Keyport Enterprise* was first issued by Armstrong Brothers, September 18, 1879,—a five-column, four-page newspaper, independent in politics. It was soon changed to seven columns. The office and material were purchased, February 14, 1884, by Frederick F. Armstrong, the present proprietor. The office is at the foot of Broad Street.

The *Keyport Express* was started, June 8, 1860, by J. H. Sibily & Co. The *Weekly Star*





was first issued in Keyport, April 25, 1866, by G. W. & C. S. Henderson. Neither of these papers were successful, and both were discontinued after a brief existence.

THE CALVARY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT KEYPORT dates back in its organization about fifty years. Soon after the commencement of the Keyport Company's operations at this place, in 1831-32, Nimrod Bedle settled here. He was an earnest Methodist, and induced Father Stuart to visit him, and hold services at his house, on which occasion he preached the first sermon ever heard in Keyport. From this time he visited the place once in two weeks. In 1835 a Sunday-school was organized with twenty pupils, and in the same year a class was also organized, and John Sproul, Richard D. Walling, Cornelius Carhart, William and Nimrod Bedle were elected trustees of the church. It was soon after decided to build a church, the society having previously held worship, alternate Sundays, with the Baptists in the school-house.

The Keyport Company had offered a lot to any society which would erect thereon a church edifice; and under that offer, this society received the lot next to the school-house on Church Street. A contract was made with William Jaques to erect a house, thirty-five by forty-five feet in size. The Revs. Long and Dunn were then in charge of the district. In March, 1841, the Rev. John Spear was appointed to the charge. The church building was completed in the summer of that year, and was dedicated by Bishop Janes. This building was used until 1856, when the present church was erected on the corner of Osborn and Cross Streets. It is forty-five by seventy-five feet in size, with lecture-room forty-five by thirty-six feet. The basement was inclosed and used in the winter of 1856-57, and finished in the following summer. The audience-room was finished later, and was dedicated February 17, 1859. The old church was sold to the school district, and used for school purposes.

In 1842 the church was under charge of — Vandewater; in 1843, White and Rogers; 1844, John Mathews. The charge then em-

braced Harmony, Chapel Hill, High Point, Chanceville, Bethany and Keyport. In 1846-47 the Rev. Mr. Burrowes resided at Keyport, in the parsonage built during the first year of his term. The following-named pastors have served the church from that time: 1848-49, Socrates Townsend; 1850-51, J. S. Beegle; 1852-53, Samuel Jacquet; 1854-55, John Searlett; 1856-57, Robert S. Harris; 1858-59, Joseph Chattle; 1860-61, F. A. Morrell; 1862-63, W. W. Christine; 1864, H. B. Beegle; 1865-67, J. G. Phelps; 1868, R. V. Lawrence; 1869, Edward Hewitt; 1871-73, R. J. Andrews; 1873-75, B. C. Lippineott; 1876-77, G. L. Dobbins; 1878, S. F. Wheeler; 1879-80, Philip Cline; 1881-83, G. C. Stanger; 1884, George C. Maddock. The church has now a membership of about two hundred.

The first Sunday-school of this church was held in an upper room of the house of John Snyder, that stood on the corner opposite Warn's drug-store, and now owned by Peter Stout. Twenty scholars were there gathered, who were taught by Miss Susan Bedle, Miss Louisa Bedle, Miss Mary Bedle, Stephen Stoney, Asher Collins, and John Snyder and his wife. William Van Dine was elected superintendent. As the numbers increased, the lower part of the house was used. Afterwards the school was held in the old red school-house, until the church adjoining was built, in 1841. In April, 1857, the school was moved into the present church. About this time branch schools were established at Oak Shades and Union, which were kept up with indifferent success. In 1869 a school was established, with one hundred members, at Mechanicsville, and was held in the blacksmith-shop of Thomas Carhart. This school continued, and is now the school of St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church. The superintendents have been William Van Dine, 1835-42; Robert B. Warden, 1854-57; Rufus Ogden, 1857-76; Richard Wharton, 1876-84. Miss Mary C. Walling has acted as female superintendent since 1853.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF KEYPORT came into existence in 1840. For some time before its organization the Revs. Stout, of Middletown, Hires, of Holmdel, and Carpenter,



of Jacksonville, preached occasionally; Mr. Carpenter finally having a regular appointment, semi-monthly, preaching in a small school-house. There were at that time, however, but few Baptists in the place, yet these had prayer-meetings, which were known as Baptist prayer-meetings. It is but due him to say that these meetings were commenced and kept going mainly by Samuel Sproul, who had been recently baptized, and was licensed to preach by the Middletown Church soon after his baptism, and who also preached, from time to time, to the little company at Keyport.

That which seems to have led to the formation of a church was the coming to the place of Rev. Frederick Ketchum, of Burlington, who held, upon invitation in connection with the Baptists who resided here, a series of meetings, holding them in the afternoon in a grove, and in the evening in a school-house, resulting in the conversion of a number of persons. It was now agreed to ask the mother-church to establish a branch at Keyport. This being refused, the brethren were brought to the alternative of either organizing another church or lose much labor and influence; and as there were a number ready for baptism, and these, as well as those already members of Baptist Churches residing in the community, were and would be a long distance from church privileges, and as the town had a prospective growth, it was resolved that a council be called to consider the propriety of constituting them into a Baptist Church. The council was called and met in a grove in Keyport, August 5, 1840. At that time seven persons presented letters of dismission from Middletown First Church: viz., Samuel Sproul, Abigail Sproul, Lydia Tilton, James Sproul, Rebecca Smith, Elizabeth Sproul and Caroline Sproul, and two from Second Middletown (now Holmdel), viz., Stephen P. Van Braekle and Jane Van Braekle; from the Baptist Church, Elmira, N. Y., two, viz., Elijah Ferris and Maria Ferris. The council examined the letters, approved of them, and commended the action of those who desired organization; and upon the same date—the record is—the council proceeded to constitute them into a regular Baptist Church. The name by which

they were organized was the Third Church of Middletown. The same day the church was re-organized Mr. Ketchum baptized twelve persons. In September of the same year application was made to the State Convention, not for pecuniary assistance merely, but that a missionary might be appointed to labor among them; and in answer to this request, Rev. Jackson Smith was appointed as such missionary. He remained upon the field but a few months, and went from thence to the pastorate of the church at Lyons Farms. He died April 18, 1850.

In the year of their organization they united with the Central New Jersey Association. In 1843 they changed from the Central to the East, and in 1872 they united with the Trenton. In February, 1841, they again made application to the Convention for help, and also that Rev. William V. Wilson be requested to accept an appointment from the board as missionary. He did so accept, and at once entered upon his work. He was ordained May 12, 1841. The services were held in the church at Middletown, as the church at Keyport had, as yet, no house of worship. Mr. Wilson entered upon his work and at once set about the erection of a house of worship, which was accomplished during the first year of his pastorate. The additions to the church, by baptism and letter, were frequent, and the growth was steady and healthy from the very commencement of Mr. Wilson's ministry.

In 1850 the name of the church was changed from the one taken at the time of organization to the First Baptist Church of Keyport. In October, 1853, twenty-three members were granted letters of dismission, to unite in the formation of a church at Matawan. In August, 1853, Mr. Wilson resigned, and though almost immediately recalled, he did not accept. During his pastorate the church had grown much in numbers and the congregation had become too large for the house, so that measures were taken at that time to secure more and better accommodations for the increased congregation.

In March, 1854, a call was extended to Rev. Mr. Bullard, of Brooklyn, to become pastor, but was declined, he, however, consenting to







supply them for some time. During this time the attention of all seems to have been absorbed in discussing, "shall we build?" or, "enlarge the house of worship?" and the question was decided differently at every meeting held. In June of the same year a call was given to Rev. John Q. Adams, of New York, which was accepted, and he at once entered upon his labors. In September, 1855, Mr. Adams resigned and removed to New York, having served but a little over one year. The church was dependent upon supplies for almost a year; a call being again extended to Mr. Wilson, and declined, and one to Rev. D. S. Parmelee meeting with the same fate. In July, 1856, Rev. F. A. Slater was invited to become pastor, and soon afterward commenced his work as such.

Soon after his settlement active measures were adopted looking to the building of a new house of worship, and though much had been done, there was nothing to show substantial progress. By much persistent and patient labor he saw the present commodious house of worship almost complete ere he ceased his pastorate. He resigned in 1862 and removed to Greenport, L. I. In December of the same year Rev. A. P. Graves became pastor. He also pushed forward to completion the new house of worship, and it was dedicated during his administration. In August of 1864 he resigned, and closed his labors the following month, serving the church a little over two years.

In June, 1865, Rev. F. T. Cailhopper, of Philadelphia, was called to the pastorate and soon commenced his labors. After about four years' labor he resigned, and subsequently became pastor at New Rochelle, N. Y. For a long time the church was without a pastor, depending upon supplies, among whom the Rev. R. McGonegal served them stately for six months. During this time a new parsonage was erected. In April, 1870, Rev. J. K. Manning, then pastor of Calvary Church, Cape May County, N. J., was called to the pastorate. After some delay the call was accepted, and he commenced his labors in October following. His successor was the Rev. S. K. Dexter, who was installed December 4, 1883, and is still the pastor. Following is a list of the

pastors of this church and their terms of service, viz.:

Rev. William V. Wilson, from March, 1841, to August, 1853; Rev. John Q. Adams, from July, 1854, to November 1, 1855; Rev. F. A. Slater, from August 1, 1856, to September, 1862; Rev. A. P. Graves, from January, 1863, to September, 1864; Rev. F. T. Cailhopper, from June, 1865, to July, 1869; Rev. J. K. Manning, from October, 1870, to 1883; Rev. S. K. Dexter, from December, 1883, to present time.

THE REFORMED (DUTCH) CHURCH OF KEYPORT was organized, with thirteen members, by a committee of the Classis of New Brunswick, on the 28th of April, 1847. On that day Abraham Van Woert and Daniel Sloan, Jr., were ordained elders, and Peter L. Snyder was chosen deacon. At the same time Nathan F. Chapman, a licentiate of the Classis, and an agent of the "Domestic Board," who had occupied the ground as such since December, 1846, was ordained to the "work of the ministry" and formally commissioned to take charge of the field.

The original undertaking, however, out of which this small nucleus of a church was gathered was begun by Rev. A. C. Millspough, of Middletown. For several years prior he had been accustomed to meet, on Sabbath afternoons, in private houses, with a small company of those who were actuated by the principles of a common faith. But early in the year of 1845 he began a more thorough prosecution of the work, by holding religious services in a school-house in the place. This movement was so spontaneous and successful that little more than two years elapsed before a permanent organization was effected as the fruits of his endeavor.

The first meeting of consistory was held at the office of Joseph D. Hoff, justice of the peace, on the 18th of May, 1847, when they subscribed to the customary oath of allegiance required by the laws of the State,—

"We—Abraham Van Woert, Daniel Sloan, Jr., and Peter L. Snyder—do swear that we will support the Constitution of the United States,—SO HELP US GOD.

"We do sincerely profess and swear that we will, and do, bear true faith and allegiance to the govern-



ment established in this State, under the authority of the people,—SO HELP US GOD.

"And we do swear that we will faithfully execute the trust reposed in us, as trustees of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church of Keyport, according to the best of our abilities and understanding,—SO HELP US GOD.

"ABRAHAM VAN WOERT,

"DANIEL SLOAN, JR.,

"PETER L. SNYDER.

"Sworn and subscribed before me this 18th of May, 1847.

"JOSEPH D. HOFF,

"Justice of the Peace."

About this time lots were secured, some by purchase, others by donation, and arrangements made for the erection of a house of worship.

The site selected was at the rear of the village, and located on what is known as the Osborne estate, and is bounded, respectively, by Warren and Elizabeth Streets on the north and south and by Osborne and Division Streets on the east and west, presenting a clean front on all sides, and giving to the new organization the space of an entire block. This was a good, though not altogether wise selection. The church would undoubtedly have been more largely attended and more prosperous if it had been located in a more central part of the town, and where a lonely walk and dark and muddy roads would not have been so generally required as a sacrifice to the comer's devotion.

But now that the ground had been secured, and a portion of the funds collected or subscribed for the erection of a church edifice, the good people of the new enterprise determined to push forward the work.

At the next meeting of consistory, held on the 31st of May, 1847, a committee, consisting of Cornelius Ackerson, David Warner and Daniel Sloan, Jr., was appointed to select a plan and superintend the erection of a church. Early in 1848 the corner-stone of the edifice was laid and in May, 1851, the building was finally completed.

The dedication was next in order, and the Rev. Dr. Bethune, so eloquent and so popular in his day, was invited to preside and preach the sermon. The record says,—“The church was dedicated to the service of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, on the 27th day

of June, 1851, by the Rev. George W. Bethune, before a numerous audience, in a most solemn manner.”

The church has received, since her organization, at divers times and for different periods, the services of five pastors, exclusive of the present incumbent, Rev. E. Mead.

That of the Rev. Nathan F. Chapman extended from April, 1847, to April, 1850; that of Rev. John Minor from January, 1851, to October of the same year; that of Rev. Jeremiah Searle from December, 1851, to November, 1853; that of Rev. Dr. Lockwood from the spring of 1854 to April, 1869; that of Rev. A. A. Zabriskie from December 1, 1869, to March, 1873; that of the present pastor began in October, 1873.

During these successive pastorates the church has been reinforced by constant supplies of fresh recruits. During the five previous pastorates no less than ninety-eight have been enrolled on the books of the church,—sixty-one by certificate and thirty-seven on profession of faith. And in addition to these, there have been gathered into the “fold of the good Shepherd,” in the course of the present pastorate, one hundred and three new members,—twenty-six by letter and seventy-seven on profession of faith,—making, in all, a total of two hundred and one accessions, exclusive of the thirteen original members.

From the beginning, up to the second year of the present pastorate, the church has received assistance from the Domestic Missionary Board to the extent of from one hundred to four hundred dollars a year. But subsequently she has undertaken the work solely upon her own resources, and results have so completely justified the effort that there seems little reason to fear she will ever again become a pensioner on the bounty of others. She now raises, for congregational and benevolent purposes, the annual sum of about one thousand dollars.

The church is surrounded by a beautiful grove of cultivated and native forest-trees. A neat and commodious parsonage, with suitable out-buildings and barn, were erected some years ago. Prominent among the promoters of this enterprise appear the names of Captain Emson, P. P. Conover and D. L. F. Schenck. A neat





walk, paved with brick, and leading from the street up to the church-doors, may also remind "Zion's travelers" of the bounty of Captain Emson's purse. Two years ago the ornamental paper which had been laid upon the walls during the term of Rev. A. A. Zabriskie was removed to make way for more permanent and elaborate decorations in oil and colors; and the neat and pretty designs on ceiling and side walls may remind the "dwellers in Zion" of another bountiful friend of the church, the late Peter Hulst, who, at the same time, contributed in a very generous way to make extensive improvements and repairs in the fences, buildings, etc., of the church.

There are at present about one hundred members. The consistory is composed of the following brethren: Deacons, H. A. Crawford, J. W. Schultz and B. Decker, Jr.; elders, David P. Van Brackle, Peter P. Conover and G. S. Luyster,—all excellent men, and endowed, as we trust, with the Spirit of the Lord.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Keyport had for its first house of worship the old Baptist Church edifice, which they purchased about 1864, and which was burned in the great fire of September 21, 1877. The corner-stone of the present church was laid by Bishop Scarborough, April 26, 1878, and the edifice was first used for divine service July 1, 1878.

The first rector was the Rev. T. M. Riley, who was succeeded by Rev. — Siebt. After him came Rev. Telfair Hodgson, who resigned in February, 1869, and went abroad. He was recalled, and in October, 1870, again became rector. He preached his farewell sermon September 10, 1871. He was succeeded by the Rev. J. D. Moore, Rev. Dr. Parkman, S. H. S. Gallaudet, — Thomson and the Rev. J. W. Norwood, the present rector, who assumed charge November 1, 1884.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH at Keyport was organized on the 10th of October, 1878. The first regular pastor was the Rev. James C. Elliot, who preached his first sermon May 8, 1880, and was installed pastor July 29th the same year. He resigned May 1, 1882, and was

immediately succeeded by the Rev. John Hancock, who has served the church to the present time. The corner-stone of the present church edifice was laid on the 16th of October, 1879. The church was completed the next year, and was dedicated June 10, 1880. The church now has thirty-three members.

ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CONGREGATION was organized before 1854. Two acres of land were purchased between Matawan and Keyport, and a brick church thirty by forty feet in size was erected, to which additions were made at different times. On June 27, 1879, the corner-stone of the present brick church was laid. The church was completed in the summer and fall of 1880, and dedicated November 1st in that year. The cost of the structure was \$22,000. The old brick church now stands in the rear of the new one, and connected with it. It is used as a parochial school. The parish contains eight hundred communicants and twelve hundred souls. A brick parsonage was erected in 1877. In 1882 sixteen acres of land were purchased of Captain Cornelius Brittan for a burial-ground connected with the church.

Father John Kelly, now of South Amboy, was the priest in charge for over twenty years. He was succeeded by Father McGovern, July 8, 1876, who remained but one year, and was succeeded by Father Garret A. Spierings, who still has charge.

THE RARITAN CEMETERY is located south of Keyport, but adjoining the corporate limits, on the south side of Chingarora Creek. A burial-ground containing about four acres of the farm of William Van Dine had been in use many years prior to 1867. On the 2d of April, in that year, the Raritan Cemetery Company was incorporated, with power to enlarge the ground to an area of ten acres. The act of incorporation named as trustees Cornelius Brittan, Theodore Aumack and Alfred Walling, Jr. The additional land was purchased, laid out in the modern style, and is now in use as one of the cemeteries of Keyport. The other one, called Green Grove Cemetery, is located on Green Grove Street, in the southeastern part of Keyport, within the corporation limits.



KEYPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT, No. 49, embraces the territory of the town. The first school-house within it was built in 1832 by the citizens of the place on a lot situated on Church Street, donated for the purpose by the Keyport Company. The house was used until 1856, when the Methodist Church on the lot adjoining was purchased by the district and was used as a school-house until the erection of the present school-house, in 1871.

In 1870 the increase of the village demanded greater facilities for schools, and it was voted to erect a new and more commodious house, and establish a graded school. Keyport was formed into District No. 49 by act of April 4, 1871. A lot was purchased on the corner of Broad Street and Mott Avenue; the corner-stone of the school-house was laid August 3, 1871, and the building was completed in the spring of 1872. It was dedicated March 28th in that year with great ceremony. A procession of children marched through the streets to the school-house, headed by the Keyport Band and the Raritan Guards, Rufus Ogden and George W. Holmes acting as marshals. The dedicatory address was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Lockwood, county superintendent. The keys were delivered by the town commissioners to the principal, Mr. Carson.

The building is in the form of a cross; the transepts are each thirty-six feet wide and sixty-nine feet long. The building is three stories in height; the upper story is a large hall for lectures. The school-rooms have a capacity of accommodating one thousand pupils. The cost of grounds, buildings and furniture was twenty-six thousand dollars. Professor S. V. Arrowsmith is the present principal. The district has now eight hundred and seven children of school age.

Wheeler's Academy, in Keyport, was opened in the year 1843 by Uriah E. Wheeler. It was located on Broad Street, and was continued until 1862.

Holmes' Academy was opened in 1857 by George W. Holmes, who for several years taught in the public schools. He, with his daughter, still continues the academy in the building at the corner of Front and Church streets, where it was opened by him twenty-seven years ago.

The school has an average of seventy-five pupils.

Cæsarea Lodge, No. 64, F. and A. M., was chartered January 18, 1865, and was instituted with twenty-three members and the following-named officers, viz.: Samuel Lockwood, W. M.; Brewster H. Porter, S. W.; Holmes C. Crawford, J. W.

Prior to the formation of this lodge a warrant of dispensation had been granted (June 22, 1864), by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, to fourteen persons to organize the Alpha Lodge in Keyport. Under that dispensation the lodge was organized and continued until January 4, 1865, when the warrant was surrendered and application made by most of the members of Alpha Lodge for a charter of Cæsarea Lodge, which was granted, and the lodge organized as above mentioned.

Meetings of Cæsarea Lodge were held in the Holmes Academy, corner of Front and Church Streets, until January 1, 1883, when they moved to rooms fitted up for their use over McKinney's drug-store, corner of Broad and Front Streets. The lodge has now a membership of forty-six. The following is a list of Past Masters: Joseph K. Lewis, John Brittan, Benjamin B. Pearce, A. B. Stoney, David Warner, Benjamin Decker, Jr., George W. Holmes, Benjamin B. Luffburrow, James H. Johnson, Marcus B. Taylor.

The present officers are Marcus B. Taylor, W. M.; Charles Miller, S. W.; G. Morris Brittan, J. W.; D. Warner, Sec.; B. Decker, Sr., Treas.

Delta Chapter, No. 14, R. A. M., was instituted October 5, 1865, under John C. G. Robertson, G. H. P. The constituent members of this chapter were from Hiram Chapter, No. 1, now at Red Bank. The first officers were Samuel Lockwood, M. E. H. P.; Joseph Van Cleaf, E. K.; and Brewster H. Porter, E. S. The chapter meets in Cæsarea Lodge-room, and has now seventeen members.

Chingarora Lodge, No. 110, I. O. of O. F., was instituted with twenty-eight members March 17, 1853, and continued in existence until January 21, 1856. Its meetings were first held in





Storm's Hall, but the lodge afterward united with the Rechabites and Order of United Americans, and fitted up rooms in Chingarora Hall, where they met until they disbanded.

Bayside Lodge, No. 193, I. O. of O. F., was instituted August 23, 1883, with fifteen members. A room was fitted up in Odd-Fellows' Hall, in the Salz Block. The lodge has now a membership of thirty-three. The present officers are P. G., D. E. Roberts, M.D.; N. G., O. C. Bogardus; V. G., John R. Dufour; Rec. Sec., John R. Farout; Per. Sec., S. P. Dye; Treas., W. E. Warne.

Keyport Division, No. 7, S. of T., was established December 10, 1860. It meets in Woodruff's building, and has a present membership of forty.

THE RARITAN GUARD is a military company which was formed at Keyport in the fall of 1861, with twenty-two members and the following-named commissioned officers: Thomas Robinson, captain; William Warner, first lieutenant; George W. Taylor, second lieutenant. The company having filled its ranks, most of the members volunteered for service in the War of the Rebellion, and formed the nucleus of Company B, Twenty-ninth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers. On their departure for the army, Rufus Ogden was elected temporary captain over the remnant of the company during the absence of the majority at the front. On their return, June 24, 1863, a public reception was given them by the citizens, and Captain Ogden turned over his men to the proper officers.

In the railroad riots of 1877 the company was called out and proceeded to Phillipsburg, N. J., where they remained until the restoration of order among the railroad employes. On the return of the company the members held a meeting and each man donated his pay to form a fund to build an armory. The fund was raised by subscription to three thousand dollars, and one thousand dollars in timber was given by the farmers of the vicinity, which was cut and hauled to the mills during the winter months of 1877-78. The armory was built on a lot purchased of Uriah H. Dudley, located on

Front Street. The building was completed at a cost of about seven thousand dollars, and was opened in 1879. It is fifty-two by one hundred feet in size; the drill-room is fifty-two by eighty-six feet and eighteen feet in height. The captains of the Guard have been Thomas Robinson, Rufus Ogden (temporary), William Warner, Alfred Walling, Jr. (now judge), James W. Hill, Benjamin A. Lee (now major of Third Regiment), Thomas L. Seabrook, Oscar F. Stanhope. The company has now about fifty members. Rufus Ogden and John S. Halstead have been members from the formation of the company, Halstead having filled the office of orderly sergeant for seventeen years.

KEYPORT HOOK-AND-LADDER COMPANY, No. 1, was incorporated February 27, 1878. The members of the company at that time were H. J. McCabe, E. Maynard, Jr., F. D. Woodruff, Elias H. Force, A. Van Nostrand, A. Salz, W. L. Conover, John F. Runyon, Rufus Ogden and George Cooper. This company, with its apparatus, is the entire Fire Department of Keyport.

On Friday, the 21st of September, 1877, at a little after eleven o'clock P.M., there broke out in Keyport a fire which proved to be the most extensive and disastrous one that ever visited the place. The fire originated in the building of Abraham Morris (occupied by him as a butcher-shop), from which it spread rapidly and with little or no check until the arrival of a fire-engine and company from Matawan, Keyport being destitute of fire apparatus at that time. The origin, progress and extent of the great conflagration were narrated in a communication to the *Monmouth Inquirer* of the next week, as follows:

"In the rear of Abraham Morris' butcher-shop is a vacant room, whose outside door hung loose upon one hinge. In this room William H. Madden, who lived next door, says he first saw the fire. There were four rooms over the butcher-shop, occupied by Mrs. Ann Riley and Mary McGerry. Mr. Morris left the butcher-shop at nine o'clock, and all was then right. He questioned Mrs. Riley as to when and how she first saw the fire. Mrs. Riley told Mr. Morris that she was awakened from sleep by a crackling noise, and got up to ascertain the cause of it. She passed out of her



room to a rear room, just above the one in which Mr. Madden saw the fire, and upon looking out of the side window the flames and smoke from without puffed up in her face. Between this building and the adjoining one, occupied and owned by Mr. Charles Miller, there was about one foot of space, and there were no windows on the side of Mr. Miller's house adjoining to Mr. Morris' building.

"From Abraham Morris' building the fire extended north, taking first Mary J. Hill's dwelling-house, occupied by William H. Madden, and then the adjoining building, a shoe and tobacco-store owned and occupied by Hughey Daugherty. This was the last building on the north side of Broad Street standing south of the yards belonging to the livery stable. The wind was blowing from the northwest, a fresh, brisk breeze, which did not lull till after two o'clock. The space between Daugherty's store and the stables broke the flames from extending further north, and as the wind was coming from the northwest the greatest peril was looked for ahead. Every moment the danger increased, for the flames were becoming less and less controllable as they spread along these wooden structures, and swept one and another down to the ground. Almost at the same time that Morris' building was burning the fire extended southward, fanned into activity and intensity by the brisk wind that was blowing. It soon caught David Warner's cigar-store, owned by Charles Miller, and from thence extended till it took Charles Miller's barber-shop and house, upon the rear part of the same lot.

"The mass of burning matter being then so large, the sparks and even flames were spreading in almost every direction. It was very apparent then that nothing could stay its onward course on the west side of Broad Street. Accordingly, the greatest scene of confusion ensued, wherein, as before in a measure, people buckled to and tried their utmost to save the goods in the various houses and stores. Families living in the second stories were almost frenzied. Cries, shouts and screams came from the women and children, and the greatest turmoil and confusion followed. Goods were carried out as fast as possible by willing hands, but the flames rolled on in their terrific fury so fast that people had to run for their lives and let their goods and chattels be consumed.

"The Pavilion Hotel, owned by C. D. Emson and Cyrenius Van Mater, caught fire several times and was somewhat damaged, but by almost superhuman exertions was saved. The trees in front of the Pavilion were thought to have stayed the flames some. Adam Huyler's grocery-store, owned by William W. Conover and Samuel T. Hendrickson, of Red Bank, narrowly escaped burning. The building was fire-proof, but it came near succumbing to the flames.

Upon the other side of the street, after Warner's cigar-store and Miller's barber-shop and house fell as victims, Joseph Maurer's lager beer saloon and dwelling were the next to fall. Then followed Walcott &

Matthews' confectionery store and dwelling, and his bake-shop in the rear, and all out-buildings. While these were burning, the Mansion House, owned by Messrs. John S. Sproul and Neeourseli Johnson, at the northeast corner of Broad and Front streets, caught fire from the sparks so speedily winged from the opposite side of the street. While the Mansion House was burning the fire was the hottest, and the flames sped away across to St. Mary's Episcopal Church (Rev. Mr. Love, rector), all of which was consumed almost in a twinkling.

"From the church it spread to Dr. McKinney's house, at the south wing of the drug-store, which was soon enveloped in the onward-marching flames. Adjoining his house was Dr. McKinney's drug-store and the Western Union Telegraph office on the first floor, and the law and insurance office of Mr. Alfred Walling and surveyor's office of Mr. George Cooper, on the second floor, all of which business centres shared the same sad fate. Upon the opposite side of the street, next to the corner, Andrew Campbell's 'Railroad Hotel,' owned and occupied by Mr. Campbell and his family, was going through the fiery furnace. At the northwest corner of Broad and Front Streets stood an unoccupied grocery-store and dwelling-house combined, owned by Asher Holmes, which was the next building laid in ashes by the attack of the flames. Van Arsdale and Ellisou's butcher-shop, around the corner, was next swept away. Theodore M. Anderson's cigar manufactory, owned by Asher Holmes, next gave way before the flames like a tinder-box. The fire then communicated with Cyrenius Waite's cigar-store, owned by Asher Holmes, and down it went among the other ruins.

"The Keyport post-office and harness-shop, in the rear, owned by Rufus Ogden, joined its neighbors, and although a receptacle for governmental matter, yet it too gave way before greater powers. Two other buildings, Wolcott and Matthews' dwelling-house, occupied by Sands Selleck and Benjamin Decker's shoe-shop and house combined, were destroyed, the latter being torn down, on the north side of Front Street, before the flames could be stayed.

"At this point, Washington Engine, forty-five men strong, came from Matawan with its active foreman, Jesse Siekles, and assistant, Henry Wyckoff, being summoned to the scene of the conflagration by a horseman, who had been previously dispatched to Matawan. The firemen fought nobly to check the flames at this point, and succeeded in preventing their spreading further on that side of the street. The wind, however, carried the flames across the street to the south side of Front Street, and although a desperate effort was made to save the handsome building across the street, all efforts proved futile.

"The Atlantic Hotel and out-buildings, owned by John S. Sproul, of Keyport, John J. Hopping, of Middletown, and George Schenck, of Holmdel, was the first victim. Then came Morritz Naftal's cigar





manufactory, and A. Salz's building, occupied by F. Eckerhardt for a barber-shop. A. Block's clothing-store, a splendid three-story brick building, an ornament to any town, owned by the heirs of William Walling, deceased, next succumbed to the all-devouring element, and fell a mass of smouldering ruins, with nothing to mark its former fine, substantial appearance but the charred and burnt brick walls, towering high above the mass of ashes that represents what once was the wooden structures belonging to Keyport's citizens. Down Broad Street the flames swept, taking first Bedle & Thomas' stone and marble-store and then attacking and conquering a dwelling occupied by William E. Storms, owned by the Walling estate, and sweeping the last two structures on that side of the street before reaching four vacant lots, namely, a two-story double house, occupied by Jacob and Edward Brown, and owned by the Walling estate, and Fred. Hoffman's saloon, occupied by the same. The stables in the rear were saved. Then came four vacant lots between the burnt district and the northwest corner of Broad and Cross Streets, which served to stay the flames from progressing farther south.

"Nearly opposite the brick building owned by the Walling estate stood the structure occupied by the *Keyport Weekly*. Between this building and the drug-store was a vacant space, which served to break the progress of the flames in a measure, and with favoring wind and hard and determined struggles of Mr. William F. Leroy and his band of printers, who were pronounced exceedingly plucky, the building and contents were saved.

"Besides the *Weekly* building, William Bedle's three-story brick house, with undertaker's shop in the basement, owned and occupied by Mr. Bedle, and a double frame house adjoining, occupied by Asbury Bedle, and owned by Alfred Walling, Jr., were saved. The most vigorous efforts were made by the citizens to stay the flames at this point, but the wind shifted a little, so that the two-story frame house belonging to John Van Woert, of Long Branch, caught fire and burned very rapidly. Flames then communicated with James Brown's two-story frame double house, both of which were soon consumed. At this point the flames were controlled by several active, venturesome young men, who plied their energies and used water very freely in their efforts to save the carpenter-shop, barn and dwelling owned by Asher Holmes, which stood just beyond Maurer's house, a yard only intervening. Here, then, we have at last found the extent of the fire in each direction, stayed at the points designated by heroic battling or by fortuitous circumstances."

In this great conflagration, which swept the central part of the town of Keyport, there were destroyed two hotels, one church and twenty-

five other buildings, including dwellings and business places. Thirty families were made homeless by the fire, and the total loss was stated to be two hundred thousand dollars.

MECHANICSVILLE is a small village at the southeast corner of Keyport, forming, in fact, a part of the corporation. In 1843 there was but one dwelling-house standing where now is the village called Mechanicsville, now a part of Keyport. In the next year Thomas Carhart, a carriage-builder, erected a shop at the corner where now stand the carriage-shops of Theodore W. Anmaek. The name of the place was derived from the fact that a number of mechanics were employed there. In 1850, Thomas Carhart sold his interest to Samuel Carhart, whose son Timothy conducted the business for ten years and sold to John Herbert, who leased it, after a year or two, to Theodore W. Aumaek, who now carries on the business. Thomas Carhart, after the sale of his business, erected a shop where B. H. Harvey now occupies. The brick shop which Mr. Carhart erected in 1856, two stores, a carriage-shop, blacksmith-shop, St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and a few dwellings constitute the village at present.

ST. JOHN'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Mechanicsville is the successor of the old Bethany Church Society (Methodist), which was organized not far from the year 1800 at the place known as Bethany, in the south part of, and near the Holmdel line. The first members were of the families of Murphy, Carhart, Bedle, Hoff, Polin and others. Meetings were first held in 'Squire Thomas Murphy's house. In 1822 a lot of land was purchased for fifteen dollars of John Dorset, containing one-quarter of an acre, on which was erected the Bethany Church. The early ministers were Bartholomew Weed, Betts, Walker, Moore, Lang, Stuart, McLaughlin and others. From this Church sprang the churches of Keyport, Matawan, Clifford, Granville, Harmony and others. It was sometimes called Dorsettown Church. In 1870 the building was removed to Mechanicsville and placed on a lot donated by Andrew Polin. It was dedicated January 1, 1871.



Father Bartholomew Weed, who was present at the dedication of the old church in 1822, took part in the dedication of the present church.

The pastors who have served this church since its removal to Mechanicsville are O. Ellerson, E. Livingston, Allen J. H. Bennett, J. S. Parker, E. W. Woodward and the present pastor, G. G. Senser.

Rufus Ogden has in his possession a roll of the scholars of Bethany Sunday-school in 1828.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

THOMAS S. R. BROWN.—Mr. Brown is of Scotch ancestry, and descended from a family who first settled in Browntown, Middlesex County. His grandfather, Lewis Brown, a native and continuous resident of the above place, married, first, a Miss Blue, and, second, Rebecca Owen. Among the children of the first marriage was Benjamin L. Brown, born in Browntown, where he learned and successfully fol-



*Thos. S. R. Brown*

It contains the names of one hundred and twenty-eight pupils, of whom are now living the Rev. James O. Rodgers, Eusebius Walling, of Freehold, Peter Stout, of Holmdel, Timothy Murphy, of Keyport (who became a teacher the next year and afterwards superintendent), G. W. Walling (now superintendent of police of New York City) and Taylor W. Walling, of Keyport. William I. Brown, now of Ocean County, was teacher in that year.

lowed the trade of a carpenter. He married Susan, daughter of Daniel Brown, whose ten children are Thomas S. R., Richard, Charles M., Cornelius H., Amos, Adelia (Mrs. Stephen Arose), Margaret (Mrs. Richard P. Burlew), Jane (Mrs. James Bowne), Sophia (Mrs. John Bloodgood) and Eliza (Mrs. Benjamin F. Ely).

Thomas S. R. Brown was born on the 8th of September, 1823, in South Amboy township (then Madison), Middlesex County, N. J., on





the farm of his father, where, until seventeen years of age, he continued to reside, alternating between the sessions of the neighboring school and the labor of the fields. He then became an apprentice to the trade of a mason and builder, and in 1846 settled in Keyport, where he conducted for twenty years an extensive business, taking large contracts and becoming interested in much of the building in that portion of the county. He subsequently abandoned his trade and engaged in oyster-planting. In 1866, Mr. Brown em-

township, including that of freeholder. He was, for 1866 and 1867, as a Democrat, elected to the State Legislature, and identified with various influential committees, on one or more of which he was chairman. Though a supporter of all evangelical denominations, he was more closely allied to St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Church of Keyport. Mr. Brown was, on the 15th of January, 1846, married to Margaret, daughter of David Lamberson, of Middlesex County, whose only surviving child is Caroline, wife of Wil-



*H. H. Seabrook*

barked in the hardware business and the sale of coal and lumber, which he still conducts in connection with his interest in the oyster-beds. He has been largely influential in the development of the town which is his home, and of all its important enterprises. He was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Keyport, and is president of the Middletown Point and Keyport Gas Company. His public spirit has led to his identification with politics in the county and his acceptance of various offices in the

liam C. Bedle. He was a second time married, to Sarah, sister of his first wife. By his union to Mary, daughter of John M. Beers, was born a son, Arthur M., and his children Richard R., George W. and Susan are the issue of his last marriage, to Maria L. Hunt.

**HENRY H. SEABROOK.**—Mary, widow of James Seabrook, in 1676, married Thomas Whitlock, and removed from Westchester County, N. Y., to Shoal Harbor, (now Port



Monmouth), in Monmouth County. Her son James settled on the Whitlock property, at the latter point, having married Mary Grover. Their son Daniel, who succeeded to the estate, married Mary, daughter of Nicholas Brown, whose son, Major Thomas Seabrook, married Martha, daughter of Dr. Stephen Tallman. A son by this marriage, Thomas by name, married Anna, daughter of Aaron Longstreet, of Pleasant Valley, Monmouth County. Their children were Aaron, who died in infancy; Mary; Aaron, married to Euphemia C. Wilson; Eleanor, wife of William Applegate; Lydia, married to Rev. W. V. Wilson; Thomas; Martha, wife of Rev. W. V. Wilson; and Henry H. The last named and youngest of these children was born September 10, 1813, on the homestead at Shoal Harbor, where his childhood was spent, his education having been received at New York and New Brunswick. His first mercantile experience was acquired in a wholesale dry-goods store in New York, after which, on returning to his native county, he purchased the interest of his father in a store at Middletown, the business being conducted under the firm-name of Aaron Seabrook & Co. His next venture was in connection with Charles J. Hendrickson, after which he removed to Keyport in the spring of 1839, and engaged in various commercial undertakings, becoming identified with steamboat, turnpike, railroad and other prominent interests of the place. In 1841 he succeeded Leonard Walling as postmaster and was for twelve years the incumbent of the office. He was the principal manager of the Middletown Point Steamboat Company, which built, under his direction, the steamer "Chingarora," plying between New York and Keyport, afterwards sold in New Orleans, the steamer "Keyport," later sold at Washington, the "Matawan" and three others, also disposed of advantageously by him. Mr. Seabrook was, in 1852, married to Therese, daughter of Leonard Walling, the only one of the eight original proprietors of Keyport who settled on his purchase. He laid out the town, built two sloops and the dock, the hotel, and, aside from his extensive mercantile interests, was the leading spirit of the new and growing hamlet. He was the son of Daniel Walling

and Helena Hoff, the grandson of John and Elizabeth Roberts Walling and the great-grandson of Thomas Walling. The children of Henry and Therese Seabrook are, Annie L., wife of William L. Conover; Thomas L., who married Maud L. Barney; Henry, deceased; Helena, deceased; Harry, a physician in New York City; and Martha Washington. Mr. Seabrook manifested little interest beyond the casting of his ballot in the political movements of the day, and invariably declined office, his influence and time, apart from that required by his varied business interests, having been given to those moral and philanthropic schemes which had for their purpose the upbuilding and elevation of the community. In this good work Mrs. Seabrook has proved his earnest successor. He united in 1852 with the Baptist Church of Keyport, in which he was deacon, as also first corresponding secretary of the New Jersey Sabbath-School Union, which office he held until his death, in March, 1872.

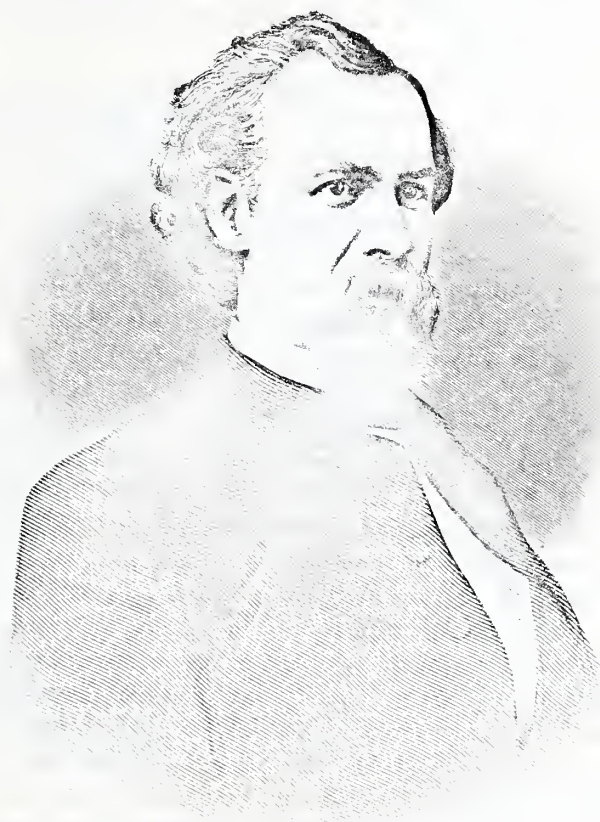
REV. ELIAS MEAD is a native of Albany County, N.Y. He was married, May, 1881, to the young and interesting granddaughter of Captain Peter Hulst, Keyport, N. J.; was the fifth son in a family of thirteen children, five of whom are living. Two perished during the late civil war in the Union army. Peter died at Fairfax Court-House; Lucius fell on the bloody field of Gettysburg. A braver man never faced the foe. Hon. John Sanders, in a eulogy on the heroes of Schenectady, pronounced him "one of Nature's noblemen."

The ancestors of Mr. Mead were all patriotic men. Both grandsires were identified with the country in her early struggles for freedom and right. Peter Cole, his maternal grandfather, was a musician in the American army in the War of 1812. Jeremiah Mead, the father of his father, served in the army of Washington during the War of the Revolution. In that important time that "tried men's souls" he gave all,—laid upon the altar of his country both life and fortune, demanding no higher honor than victory, and no sweeter reward than the vindication of his country's rights.

This Revolutionary soldier was blessed with







*E Mead*



a patriarchal family. He had four sons and ten daughters. All reached maturity except two, who were accidentally taken out of the world. The sons, following the bent of their father, became farmers. One, however, having a taste for letters, qualified himself for more important service, and rose by his personal attainments to the occupancy of a seat on the judicial bench of his native county at Albany. Like Nimrod of old, "he was a mighty hunter," also a successful farmer, a keen lawyer and an able judge.

Jasper, the third son, inherited the paternal establishment at Chesterville, Albany County, N. Y. There the subject of this sketch was born. In 1848, however, and during the childhood of Mr. Mead, his father removed to Schenectady County and settled on a farm in the Mohawk Valley. Here he was brought up, receiving such educational advantages as the district school afforded. In the spring and summer of 1862 he attended the academy at Charlton, Saratoga County, where he studied the languages and prepared himself for a classical course in college. But cash was not very plentiful, and he was compelled to resort to a variety of methods in order to get along. At one time he boarded at home and walked seven miles and a half to recitations; at another he did chores for his bread, and built fires and swept the academy for his tuition; at others he taught school, and so acquired the means for prosecuting his studies. But when he was about to enter college he was sent by his father with a power of attorney to settle the estate of a deceased brother in California. He returned in 1865 and entered, in the fall of that year, the sophomore class in Union College. The next year, having determined to enter the Christian ministry, he was transferred to the junior class of Rutgers, at New Brunswick. Here he remained until 1867, and by crowding the labors of two years into one, finished his academic course three terms in advance of his classmates.

Mr. Mead entered the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick in 1867, and graduated in 1870. His first charge was in the Reformed Church at Coeymans, on the Hudson. He found the church in a feeble condition, incomplete in

its organization and scarcely able to sustain a prayer-meeting. The first year of his ministry was spent in "healing the breaches," reconciling persons at variance and "holding forth the word of life." The close of that year witnessed an ingathering of some twenty souls, mostly people in advanced life. The results of the following year were alike precious, for the close of *that* witnessed an ingathering of upwards of fifty, mostly young people, and the church that had been without a prayer-meeting was blessed with two,—a church prayer-meeting and a young people's prayer-meeting,—which were productive of much good. The following year the number of accessions was not so large, but the time was spent in organizing and consolidation, and the precious materials which had recently entered found employment in this important work; and when, a few months later, he was called away from that field, he left a strong and efficient church, thoroughly organized and equipped.

About this time overtures were made from the Reformed Church of Keyport. Persons desirous for her growth commended this weak church to the attention of the young and successful pastor at Coeymans. With profound reluctance and after much persuasion, he was finally induced to take hold of the work, under the representation that the soil was very fertile and the "field white to the harvest."

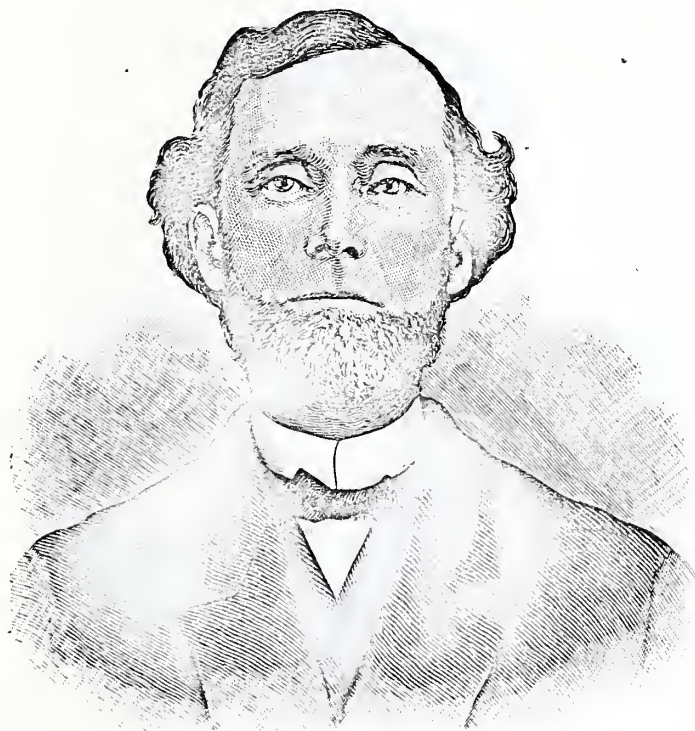
He came, and the good Spirit came with him, and before the year closed twenty-two souls had been added to the church,—three by letter and nineteen on profession of faith. But the showers of divine grace continued to fall on the thirsty soil of Keyport, and fourteen were added the following year, and twenty the year after that. But while the good work was yet in progress a conspiracy was formed: secret meetings were held and charges of a most ridiculous character were made against the pastor, and presented to Classis. At the same time the daily press was utilized to give publicity to the most damaging and unfounded statements. Immoral and vicious circulars were also printed and, in the dead hour of night, strewed about the streets, thrown into yards and thrust under the doors of the inhabitants, and the powers of hell were invoked to crush the man who had





imperiled his life to save souls. All this Mr. Mead endured in heroic silence and without retaliation, in the strong belief that God would vindicate the right. The reports were, however, discredited; the charges, in every material point, were disproved; while blessings continued to descend on the field of his labors. That same year witnessed a precious work of grace in the church, and eighteen more were added to the fold, so that when those who had been innocently

DANIEL W. HOLMES.—Asher Holmes, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch, who resided in Raritan township, married Lydia Walling, and had children,—Catharine, John, James, Abby, Lydia, Asher, Daniel W., Mary, Azelia, and others who died in early life. The birth of Daniel W. occurred October 18, 1814, on the homestead, in Raritan township, where modest educational opportunities were enjoyed; after which, at the age of fourteen, he entered a



*D. W. Holmes*

or otherwise involved in the trouble withdrew, the membership was not in the least diminished.

Resolute and active and buoyant with hope, this pastor has clung to his enfeebled church as a mother to her suffering child. Awed by no threats and cajoled by no rewards, he has worked steadily on with a determination that no calumny could weaken, and a perseverance that never stoops but to glean the fruits of a nobler success.

store in Middletown as clerk. Removing later to Keyport, he became clerk for Henry H. Seabrook, and eventually embarked in mercantile pursuits at that point, having erected a store for the purpose. His mercantile career was successful, and extended over a period of thirty years, during which time he was regarded as among the influential citizens of the village. His frugality and devotion to business enabled him to leave, on his death, a considerable estate. He married, in 1849, Miss Almira, daughter of



Thomas Bedle, of Raritan township, whose birth occurred July 14, 1823. Their children are Arabella and Charles Alvin, both deceased. Mr. Holmes was content, as a Democrat, to cast his ballot, and allowed the party reins to be held by other and more ambitious hands. He was devoted to his own business interests; rarely identified himself with public schemes and through life observed a becoming modesty and reserve. Though educated a Baptist, he wor-

Rachel Dorsett in 1797, died June 3, 1859; they had seven children, viz., Alice, James, John, Joseph, Jonathan, Samuel, and Samuel (2d).

John Sproul, of this family, was born in Middletown township, Monmouth County, April 15, 1803, and later removed to Keyport, where he was one of the earliest settlers of that locality, and among the original purchasers of the Kearney estate, upon which the village of Key-



*John S. Sproul*

shipped with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His death occurred on the 17th of March, 1874, in his sixtieth year.

**JOHN S. SPROUL.**—James Sproul, of Scotch descent, served as ensign in the American Revolutionary army, and was killed in a skirmish at Short Hills, in this State, previous to which he was married to Zilpha McChesney, and they had two children,—Oliver and Elisebeth. Oliver was born October 10, 1776, was married to

port is located. By trade a builder, he latterly devoted his attention to farming. He died in October, 1851. His wife was Sarah Ann, daughter of John Stout. Their children were Edgar, John S., Martha (deceased), Alice (deceased), Sarah S. (Mrs. Stephen Arrowsmith) and Susan (deceased).

John S. Sproul was born on the 7th of June, 1835, in Keyport, where he has since that date resided. He received a thorough academic education, and on the completion of his studies





at once engaged in active business as a builder and operator in real estate. He has, at various times, erected stores and dwellings and a spacious hotel known as the Mansion House, though much of his time is devoted to other matters, including the livery business. He was, in 1874, married to Alma A., daughter of William Matthews, of Keyport. The children of this marriage are John, Jr., Paul W. (deceased) and Mark P. Mr. Sproul is associated with the fraternity of Masons as a member of Caesarea Lodge, No. 64, and of Delta Chapter, No. 14, of that order, situated at Keyport. In his political belief he is a declared Republican and very active in the promotion of the interests of his party and its success. He has served as freeholder and been frequently nominated for minor township offices. In 1873 and 1874, Mr. Sproul was elected to the State Legislature, and served at this time on committees on railroad and canals, State prisons and reform schools and on commerce and navigation. Though still wielding an extended political influence, he has devoted much of his time to the management of his own interests and been indifferent to the rewards of party service.

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**PETER D. HULST.**—The subject of this sketch was born at Bushwick, Kings County, N. Y., June 1, 1804, and died at Keyport, N. J., June 8, 1884. He was the eldest of eleven children, all of whom lived to mature age. The first break in the family was made by the death of the youngest daughter, who had married and become the mother of three children.

At an early period the ancestors of Mr. Hulst emigrated from Holland and settled in the town of Bushwick, L. I. There his father, Anthony, was born, also his grandfather, John, and his great-grandfather, Anthony. His mother (Sarah Meserole), his grandmother (Deborah Blake) and his great-grandmother (Letty Van Dyne) were well connected, having descended from prominent individuals in their respective family lines.

Mr. Hulst was by choice, profession and practice a farmer. At Bushwick and Dutch Kills, where he resided at different times and followed his chosen occupation, he was quite famous.

The old neighbors still speak of the remarkable farming operations, which called for toilsome days and sleepless nights, producing grand crops and yielding plenty of cash.

He never slighted, never neglected business, —never put off until to-morrow the thing that could be done to-day. Under his skillful and diligent management the abundant productions of the field kept the wheels of his market-wagon revolving. The writer has frequently heard him remark that, excepting the holidays and the Sabbath, he never allowed a day to pass without contributing a load of stuff to supply the demands of Washington Market. In attestation of these facts he received scores of prizes, in the shape of silver cups, medals and cash, from the American Institute and County Agricultural Societies, for the best stock, finest fruit and various productions of the field. Indeed, each year brought its new crops, and every new set of crops a harvest of prizes to reward the industrious, hard-handed, open-hearted, indefatigable farmer.

But this was not to continue always. Mr. Hulst and his prudent and industrious lady, having accumulated more than a competency, sold their beautiful and valuable establishment at Dutch Kills, and retired for repose to Keyport, N. J., in the fall of 1867, having already purchased the fine homestead of the late Captain T. V. Arrowsmith. The premises, however, were not altogether to his liking, and the man of leisure found new occupation in meeting the demands of this new situation. The buildings were accordingly renovated, fences repaired, walks relaid and the grounds in every way enlarged and improved.

Mr. Hulst never aspired to any official positions. He could never be induced to take any political office for the remuneration there might be in it. But whenever any such office as that of town commissioner was thrust upon him, which happened again and again, he always served without pay, and conducted the affairs of the office as he did the affairs of the farm,—gave them his personal undivided attention.

In generosity he was also notable. The fresh vegetables and delicious fruits of his extensive gardens attested his bounty to scores and





Eng<sup>d</sup> by A. H. Bickel

*Peter D. Hulst.*





scores of neighbors. He never sold anything from the productions of his gardens. All that was not required to supply his own board was freely given away; and the same free-hearted spirit was extended to the Reformed Church, which he constantly and regularly attended. No man there, in congregation or among the members, ever surpassed Mr. Hulst in the matter of liberality.

He was married, in March, 1823, to Hannah, daughter of Cornelius Vancott, at Green Point, Kings County, N. Y., by whom he had four children; but none of them survive him.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### MARLBOROUGH TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Marlborough<sup>1</sup> was erected in 1848, being taken from the territory of Freehold. By the act of erection the boundaries of Marlborough were fixed and described as follows:

"Beginning at the northwest corner of the township of Freehold, in the line between the counties of Middlesex and Monmouth, and at the point where the line of the townships of Middletown and Freehold meet; thence running along the line between the said townships of Freehold and Middletown in a southeasterly direction until it comes to the line of Atlantic township, in said county of Monmouth, at the point in said line where the lines of the townships of Freehold, Middletown and Atlantic meet; thence along the line of Atlantic township in a southwesterly direction till it comes to a point opposite the house of William I. Sickles; thence leaving the said Atlantic line and running westwardly in a straight line to the brook near John Griggs' distillery; thence down said

brook its various courses till it comes to a point four hundred yards west of David R. Vanderveer's house; thence northerly in a straight line to a point one chain north of John F. Barricklo's house; thence westerly in a straight line to a point in the line of Middlesex County, lying one chain south of Richard Magie's house; thence down said line to the beginning."

The township of Marlborough lies (as shown by the preceding description) on the northwest border of Monmouth, having the county of Middlesex as its northwestern boundary. On the north it is bounded by the township of Matawan, on the east by Holmdel and Atlantic, on the south by Freehold and on the southwest by the township of Manapalan. The streams of Marlborough are unimportant. A principal branch of Hop Brook forms its eastern boundary against the township of Holmdel, and another tributary of the same brook flows southeastwardly through a part of Marlborough, and enters the main stream at the point where this township joins Holmdel and Atlantic. Two or three other small streams, flowing northwestwardly, unite in that part of Marlborough, forming a creek, which flows in the same direction into Middlesex County, where its waters join those of South River. The only railroad line in the township is that of the Freehold and New York Railway, which traverses it from south to north, running from Freehold to Matawan. The population of Marlborough township by the United States census of 1880 was two thousand one hundred and ninety-three. The list of chosen freeholders elected for the township from its erection to the present time is as follows:

- 1848. Garret D. Schenck.
- 1848. John W. Herbert.
- 1849-50. William H. Conover.
- 1849-53. Joseph I. Van Derveer.
- 1854-55. William H. Johnson.
- 1856-63. Joseph I. Van Derveer.
- 1865-68. Charles H. Conover.
- 1869-72. Benjamin S. Van Derveer.
- 1873-79. Lafayette Conover.
- 1880-81. Daniel P. Van Dorn.
- 1882-84. Gideon C. McDowell.

<sup>1</sup> The name Marlborough was given first to the village and afterwards to the township, because of the extensive marl-beds found in the vicinity, and because here was made the first use of marl as a fertilizer in Monmouth County. In 1768 an Irishman, ditching on the farm of Peter Schenck, near the site of the village of Marlborough, discovered a substance which he recognized as marl, having seen the use of it in the old country. Upon his report, it was tried on a field and produced extraordinary results in the crops. In 1795 marl was dug on one of the tributaries of Hop Brook, and, being used on the farm of John H. Smock, produced results which soon caused an extensive use of it in that region.

The first settlements in what is now Marlborough township were made about the year 1685, at a place then called Topanemus, which



was a little west of the present village of Marlborough. The settlers there were Quakers, the first who came to the vicinity being George Keith, who was a leader and preacher in that sect. In ancient records he is mentioned as the first settler in Freehold; but Freehold township (which was laid out soon after Keith came) included the present township of Marlborough. A Quaker Meeting-house was built at Topanemus, in 1692, largely through Keith's influence; but he soon afterwards abandoned the Quakers and went over to the Church of England, and in 1702 (having, in the mean time, returned to London) he was sent to New Jersey, as a missionary of that church, by the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Soon after his arrival in America he came to Monmouth County, where he preached at various places, one of the principal of which was Topanemus. Referring to his visits to Monmouth County, his journal has the following entries:

"October 10, 1702.—We went to the meeting of the Quakers at *Toponemes*, in Freehold, in East Jersey, who used to keep a separate meeting from the other Quakers for their gross errors, and joined with me and my friends in the separation about 1692; and it happened to be their yearly meeting, where divers came from West Jersey and Pennsylvania. One of their preachers prayed and preached before I began. After he had done, I used some church collects I had by heart, in prayer.

"October 10th, 1703, Sunday.—I preached at *Toponemes*, in Freehold, in East Jersey, on Acts 24: 12, and had considerable auditory, divers of them late converts from Quakerism to the Church. Mr. Inness, above mentioned, did read the prayers. Mr. Talbot stayed to preach in several places in Pennsylvania and West Jersey for some time.

"January 30th, 1704.—I preached at the house of Mr. Thomas Boels, in Freehold, in East Jersey, on 1 Cor. 15: 58."

The greater part of Keith's former friends, the Topanemus Quakers, were converted by his preaching to the Episcopal faith and form of worship, which resulted in the erection, at Topanemus, of a church of that denomination, which was named St. Peter's. It was used for worship for some years, but was afterwards torn down, and parts of it were used in the building of St. Peter's church at Freehold; in

the historical account of which a more full mention is made of the old church building at Topanemus.

The old Topanemus burial-ground, which was at first connected with the ancient church of St. Peter's, is situated on the dividing line between the farm of Hendrick E. Conover and Huldah Barrielo estate. It contains nearly half an acre, a part of which is heavily wooded. The last two persons buried in it were Huldah Barrielo and John R. Barrielo. Among the inscriptions on old headstones in this ground are the following:

"Under

Here Lyes Interred the Body  
of COLL. JOHN ANDERSON, once  
President of His Majesty's Council for  
the Province of New Jersey, who  
Departed this life March the 28th,  
Anno Do 1736, aged 71 years.

"His Country's true Friend, obliging to neighbours,  
Gave no man offense, Paid each for their labours,  
Was easie at home, or abroad dare appeare,  
Gave each man his Due and no man did fear,  
The same in all seasons From flattery far."

"Here lies the body of JOHN REID,<sup>1</sup> who came from Scotland, his native Country, with his wife, Margaret, and three daughters, to New Jersey the 9th of Decbr., Anno Dom 1683. He died the 16th of Novbr., Anno Dom 1723, Aged 67 years."

The old Scots Meeting-House, which was situated about two miles northwest of Topanemus, was built about 1692 by Scotch Presbyterians, who settled along the western border of the county between 1683 and 1690, many of them being emigrants who came from Scotland in the ill-fated ship "Caledonia" in 1685. A more extended account of this old meeting-house and its congregation will be found in the history of the old Tennent Church, in Manalapan township.

The graveyard adjoining this old meeting-house still exists, and is called the old Scotch Burying-Ground. The site of the old church can be plainly seen by the depression in the

<sup>1</sup> John Reid located first at Perth Amboy, but a short time, came to Monmouth County and settled on a tract of land called "Hortensia," lying adjacent to Hop Brook. He became county judge and surveyor-general of the province, and held many other important offices. His daughter Anna, became the wife of the Honorable John Anderson.





ground and the absence of graves. This shows that the building stood east of the centre, facing the old road leading to Englishtown. This burying-ground is a short distance from the farm-house where Ira Conover lived until his death. A few years ago this old burial-ground was cleared up and fenced. The grave of Rev. John Tennent is in the centre, and marked by a flat slab. The names on many of the old tombstones show their Scottish origin. For example, that of Michael Henderson, who died August 23, 1722; John Henderson, who died January 1, 1771, in his seventy-fourth year; Samuel Crawford, who died July 8, 1748, aged thirty-five years.

On an adjacent tombstone in this inscription: "Here lies the body of William Crawford, late High Sheriff of Middlesex County, who departed this life the 22d day of March, 1760, in his 50th year."

Very near this is a double tombstone, sculptured with a ghostly semblance of the human face, with the following inscription: "Here lies the body of Margaret, wife of William Redford, who came from North Britain 1682, who died April 17, 1729, aged 84 years."

"Here lies the body of William Redford, who came from North Britain 1682, and died March, 1725-26, aged 84 years." On this side of the yard is the grave of Richard Clark, whom the headstone shows was born in Scotland, 1663, and died May 16, 1733, aged seventy years.

Other tombstones record the names of Archibald Craig, who died January 19, 1758, aged seventy-three years; of Mary, his wife, November 1, 1752, aged sixty-nine years; of Anthony Ward, born in Great Britain, and died in 1746, aged seventy-six; and of Elizabeth, wife of Jeremiahs Reeder, who died 1735, aged seventy-nine. There are a great many graves without headstones, and only slight irregularities in the ground to show they ever existed. In late years only the Quaekenbush, the Boice and Probascio families have buried in this old ground.

THE OLD BRICK CHURCH OF MARLBOROUGH,<sup>1</sup>

first known as the Reformed Church of Navesink,<sup>2</sup> afterwards as the Dutch Reformed Church of Freehold and Middletown, was formed in the year 1699. The earliest reliable information obtained of a Reformed Church in the county is that in that year the Dutch families of Monmouth County were sufficient in number to have stated preaching. This service was rendered according to agreement by ministers from Long Island at appointed times in rotation. Their names were Wilhelmus Lupardus, Vincentius Antonides and Bernardus Freeman. They were pastors of the collegiate churches of King's County, L. I. Of the Rev. Mr. Lupardus nothing is known. The Rev. Vincentius Antonides, who is described as an amiable Christian gentleman, had a son, named Johannes, who married Johanna Kowenhoven, and settled in Middletown about 1720. He was a deacon in this church in 1726. The Rev. Bernardus Freeman, before his settlement at Flatbush, was a missionary among the Mohawk Indians, and was celebrated in his day for his knowledge of the Indian language.

These ministers, it is said, found their services here exceedingly burdensome because of "the distance they were compelled to travel, and the danger of crossing the great bay in small boats."

The church records begin with this statement, recorded in the Low Dutch language: "In the year of our Lord, 1709, on the 19th of October, the Rev. Joseph Morgan, a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ, was installed as pastor of the Reformed congregation of Freehold and Middletown, in the presence of Rev. Bernardus Freeman, of King's County." Then, as now, it was the Reformed Church; nor should it be overlooked that it is spoken of as the Reformed congregation of Freehold and

<sup>2</sup> Dominie Erickson, when commencing the record of baptisms administered by himself, in 1736, says: "Baptismal record of the Reformed congregation of the Navesink." The whole region between the ocean and the Raritan River was known as the Navesink; so called because occupied by a sub-tribe of the Lenape Indians, the Navesinks. This same region is sometimes called the Raritans. Families settling here are said to have removed to the "Raritans," on the old church records of Flatbush, Long Island.

<sup>1</sup> This history of the Brick Church is by the Rev. Theodore W. Wells.



Middletown,—one congregation, with families residing in the two townships of Freehold and Middletown and sometimes called the Congregation of the Navasink. The consistory was composed of Peter Van Deventer and John Wyekoff, elders, and Jacob Van Dorn and Garret Schenck, deacons. There were forty-nine in the communion of the church, forty-five of whom had been received by certificate and four by confession of faith in Christ.

The first installed pastor of a Reformed Church in New Jersey was Rev. Guillaume Bertholf, who was installed at Hackensack in 1694. The second pastor of a Reformed Church installed in the State was Rev. Joseph Morgan, at Freehold, in 1709.

Until 1826 there was no other Reformed Church in Monmouth County. Now there are nine, all of them the offspring of the old mother church, over which, in 1709, the Rev. Joseph Morgan was installed. At this time Mr. Morgan was pastor of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, the germ of the well-known Old Tennent Church. He was a Presbyterian minister and a Dutch dominie at the same time. When he appeared in court to take the necessary oaths as minister of the gospel, he was presented by representatives of both congregations. These oaths were required because he was not a minister of the Church of England. According to "An Act of Parliament for exempting her Majesty's Protestant subjects dissenting from the church of England from the penalties of certain laws," every minister not in the communion of the English Church was obliged to take oath that he would not teach the doctrine of transubstantiation, nor anything contrary to the doctrine of the Trinity, as taught in the thirty-nine articles of the English Church. This was called "qualifying," and in this manner Dominie Morgan "qualified" himself in December, 1709, having been "presented by several of said congregation, viz., Jacob Laen, John Wikof, John Sutfin, William Hendrickson, John Essmith, William Wilkins and Auri Mattison, in behalf of themselves and the rest of their brethren." The first three of these persons were in the communion of the Reformed Church; the others represented the Scotch Presbyterians.

During his whole ministry Dominie Morgan was connected with the Presbytery of Philadelphia, to which he was amenable. The circumstances which led to his settlement among the Dutch were his ability to preach in the Low Dutch language, and the willingness of himself and the Scotch Presbyterians to give the Dutch three-fourths of his services,—an arrangement it would have been impossible to make had not the Dutch congregation been the most flourishing.

At this time Monmouth County was little less than a forest. Here and there was a clearing; but the settlements were widely scattered, the streams unbridged and the roads not much more than paths through the wilderness. Horseback riding for many years was a necessity. In the latter part of his ministry Dominie Morgan, it is said, attracted attention by riding through the country in a two-wheeled cart or gig,—probably the first thing of the kind brought into the county.

Mr. Morgan was probably of Welsh origin. He was born in 1674. When twenty-three years of age he was ordained in Connecticut to the gospel ministry. He was thirty-five years old when becoming the pastor of this church. He had previously been settled over the Presbyterian Churches of Bedford and East Chester, in New York, and afterwards ministered to the churches of Hopewell and Maidenhead, N. J. He was persecuted in his ministry on account of the manner of his ordination and his use of notes in preaching. He incurred the ill-will of Dominie Frelinghuysen, of Six-Mile Run, the most influential Dutch minister in this section of the State, by baptizing the children of some of the disaffected members of his congregation, who applied for such service. The baptismal register contains the record. In bitter retaliation, Dominic Frelinghuysen denounced him as "the friend and advocate of a lifeless, God-dishonoring formality." In 1728 various charges were brought against him, such as practicing astrology, countenancing promiscuous dancing and transgressing in drink, but they were not sustained. About ten years after this intemperance was proved against him and he was suspended from the ministry. He was





fully restored in 1738. Two years later, having heard George Whitefield preach, he was so affected with Whitefield's spirit that he went forth as an evangelist, proclaiming the gospel towards the sea-coasts of New Jersey and other places destitute of the means of grace. He died while engaged in these missionary labors, sixty-six years of age, and was laid to rest in a grave unknown.

He was a man of more than usual ability, a learned man and a scholar. He was the author of a number of printed sermons on various subjects, and published several theological treatises. A Latin letter written by him to Cotton Mather, the most eminent clergyman of New England, bearing date 1721, is preserved at Worcester, Mass. The testimony of the consistory, at the time of his leaving this congregation, gives him a reputation for piety and ministerial fidelity scarcely equaled by any of the ministers at that time in the country.

In 1714, five years after the installation of Dominie Morgan, the land on which this building stands, and the adjoining farm of Mr. Daniel P. Conover, became the property of the church. It was first bought of one Richard Salter, or Sadler, in 1709, for the sum of four hundred and fifty pounds, by Ghertie Romain, widow of Stoffell Romain, "for the use of the Dutch Presbyterian minister." In 1714 it was conveyed by Jacobus Romain, her son, to John Schenck and Cornelius Cowenhoven, of Middletown, and Peter Tyson, of Freehold, in trust for the use of the congregation. Because of the uncertain tenure of lands and the conflict of titles at that early day, the same property, with the addition of thirty acres, was deeded, in 1748, to Cornelius Van Der Veer, of Middletown, and John Hans, of Freehold, "in trust for the Low Dutch congregation of Protestants, as the same was established by the Synod of Dort, in the years 1618-19, to be equally divided between the two congregations of Freehold and Middletown, both in quantity and quality." This deed was executed by Thomas Kinnan. The property was occupied by Dominie Morgan as a parsonage. It is described as containing "one hundred acres of good arable land, as good as any in Freehold, on

which a family may subsist comfortably." Dominie Morgan, it is said, realized at least thirty pounds a year from his farming operations, "besides his own bread." Its location is designated "five-quarters of an hour's distance from the water's edge, and the half of a quarter of an hour's distance from the church."

The question now arises, Where was the church located? Two places are referred to as the probable site. The Rev. Aaron A. Marcellus says, in a book of historical notes, that the old church stood either on the brow of the hill, on the right-hand side of the turnpike, just as you cross the bridge near the mill in going from the church to Marlborough, or on Hendrickson's Hill, the large knoll on which a solitary apple-tree is now growing, almost directly in the rear of the present parsonage at Marlborough. Between these two places it is not difficult to decide. There is in the former place an old graveyard, whose existence has probably led to the conclusion that a church once stood there. It was formerly known and called Hance's burying-ground, and was a portion of the estate of John Hance,<sup>1</sup> one of the original proprietors under the Nicolls patent. This proves conclusively that the old church did not stand there. Burying-grounds invariably take the name of the church to which they belong. The tradition which fixes the site of the old church on Hendrickson's Hill is probably correct. In tracing back the title to the property in question, it is found that more than a century ago a quarter of an acre of land, which takes in Hendrickson's Hill, was deeded several times to different parties, until at length it became the property of Mr. John H. Smoek, who owned the adjoining land. The building which formerly stood on Hendrickson's Hill, and was taken down more than fifty years ago, was just such a building as a pioneer people would be likely to erect as a house of worship. It was about twenty feet square, with a steep gable roof. The sides were shingled. The door was

<sup>1</sup> Some persons think this name should be spelled Hans, pronounced Honce. If so, the property in question did not belong to the John Hance mentioned, but to a Dutch family, whose name is found on the baptismal register in 1735,—Johannes Hause and Lena Willemse, his wife.



in the middle of one of the sides, and was quite large. There was a window on each side of the door. There were no partitions within, but one room occupied the whole space. Such a building would not have been erected for dwelling purposes. It was used as a dwelling in later years, but only after additions were built and alterations made. It was a very old building when taken down. It is also well known that fifty years ago, when the congregation was divided in opinion and sentiment concerning the location of the Brick Church, some wished to have it placed on Hendrickson's Hill. As at that time there was no village at Marlborough, the only apparent reason for such a desire is the fact, then better known than at present, that the first church stood there.

At this time (1709) there was no house of worship belonging to the Reformed Church at Middletown. The deed for the Middletown Church property was executed in 1723. This was after the erection of the church. In describing the property, the deed locates the place of beginning a certain number of chains "south-east of the meeting-house." The date of the erection of the church is unknown. It was probably commenced as early as 1721, as at that time there was a permanent increase in the number of elders and deacons composing the consistory. This church was located about half a mile beyond the present Holmdel parsonage, on the road leading to Middletown village, near an old burying-ground. Some old papers in possession of Dr. William Reiley show conclusively that it must have been built in squares, without pews. There seems to have been eleven of these squares, besides benches. There are still extant curious lists of these squares and their occupants, which show that the present congregation is, to a great extent, descended from those who reared the old building. It was pulled down and destroyed in 1764. The property on which it stood was conveyed to Daniel Hendrickson and Johannes Polhemus by Andrew Johnson, of Middletown, in consideration of the sum of three pounds, "for the sole use, benefit and behoof of the people belonging to the religious society known as the Dutch Presbyterians." Previous

to the erection of the Middletown Church the only Reformed Church building in Monmouth County was the one located on Hendrickson's Hill, in the present township of Marlborough, then forming a part of the township of Freehold. This is the reason why the congregation is always called, in the early church records, the congregation of "*Freehold and Middletown.*" Dominie Morgan's ministry lasted twenty-two years. He received one hundred persons into the communion of the church, the first of whom, Jan Romain, Benjamin Keener, Derrick Barkalow and Janake, his wife, were received the 13th of May, 1711. He baptized five hundred and eighty-two infants, the first of whom was Abraham, son of Jacob Van Dorn, October 20, 1709. In 1721 a revival was enjoyed, when twelve persons united with the church at one time. He preached his farewell sermon August 2, 1731.

The Rev. Gerardus Haeghoort, a licentiate of the Classis of Amsterdam, Holland, succeeded Mr. Morgan. He came in answer to a call sent by the consistory to the above-mentioned Classis, with the request that they would send them a suitable minister. Accompanying this call there is an interesting description of such a minister as the consistory suppose would be acceptable to their people. He was to be a person of competent abilities, not more than thirty-five years of age, whether married or unmarried it mattered not. He was to be sound in the faith of the Reformed Church, well educated, exemplary and prudent.

The call also contained the following stipulations: The pastor is to preach in two places,—Freehold and Middletown,—on alternate Sabbaths, the two meeting-houses being "about an hour and a half's travel apart." He is to observe New Year's day, Paas, Pinxter, Ascension and Christmas days, "according to the custom of a majority of the churches in this country." The Lord's Supper is to be administered quarterly and alternately in either church, the preparatory service having been held on the preceding Thursday.

For such services the consistory promise him the entire use of the parsonage and farm in Freehold, "on which, in a short time, the







church will be placed, not far from the minister's house." They promise him annually seventy pounds good current money, in exact half-yearly payments,—a custom still in vogue. They also promise to repair the parsonage accordingly to the dominie's wishes, after his arrival, and likewise to furnish him with a good riding-horse. The congregation is described as "five-quarters of an hour's travel in breadth in the middle, and full three Dutch or twelve English miles in length." And the consistory assure the Classis that if the minister they send is not accustomed to farming, "he could let the farm for two-thirds of its yield, or hire a farmer for fifteen pounds, or by the assistance and instruction of friends, he would be able in a few years to manage the farm."

This call was signed by Jan Kowenhoven, Garret Schenck, Elbert Williamse and Cornelius Wyekoff, elders, and Dirk Barkalow, Hendrick Kip, Jan Van Mater, and William Covenhoven, deacons. It was moderated and attested by the Rev. Gaultherus Du Bois, who seems to have been very much in the esteem and confidence of the people. He was pastor of the Collegiate Reformed Church of New York City. "He was more like a bishop," says Dr. De Witt, "among the Dutch Churches, than pastor of a single organization."

Mr. Haeghoort, having accepted this call, was solemnly ordained by the laying on of hands, and installed pastor of the church of Freehold and Middletown by the Classis of Amsterdam, Holland. On the 9th of August, 1731, he was introduced to his charge by the Rev. Gaultherus Du Bois, who preached a sermon on the occasion. Four years after his arrival he resigned his call to become pastor of the Reformed Church at Second River (now Belleville) Essex county, N. J.

For fifteen years Mr. Haeghoort's relations to the church at Second River were delightful and pleasant. Dissatisfaction then took the place of harmony and love. The church-doors were closed against him, and he preached to a few friends from the steps of the church. His salary was withheld, and for so long a time that the possession of some property brought with him from Holland alone saved him from

needing the very necessities of life. He maintained his ground, triumphed over his enemies, and continued the pastor of the church until 1776, when he died, and was buried within the walls of the church, immediately in front of the pulpit.

During the first year of Mr. Haeghoort's ministry, and previous to September, 1732, the congregation commenced the erection of a house of worship on the site now occupied by the Brick Church. They were so evenly divided in sentiment and desire that at a meeting called for deciding the location of the church, they agreed that the church should stand on the site to which the first load of stone for building purposes was carted. It was late in the afternoon when the meeting adjourned, but Mr. Roeleff Schenck, more frequently called Black Roeleff, immediately went home, hitched up his team, gathered the stones and carted them to the lot on which this building stands. That decided the matter.

The building which the congregation erected on the site to which Roeleff carted the stones was a good, substantial edifice, nearly as large as the present one. There were three windows on each side, and a large double-arched door in the centre of the gable end facing the road. It had a steep, hip roof, surmounted by a small belfry, crowned with the four points of the compass and a large brass rooster. This is now in the possession of Mr. Asher Holmes. There were galleries extending about three-fourths of the length of each side, and entirely across the front. The building was ceiled within with boards standing on end. The ceiling overhead met from each side in the centre, from which a large wooden ornament resembling an acorn was pendant. The pulpit was small, but quite high. It was reached by a narrow flight of stairs, and over it hung a sounding-board to give volume and depth to the minister's voice. For many years there were no pews in the building. The congregation sat on benches, the men around the wall, the women in the centre. Some used double chairs, such as was generally used in wagons in those days, and may occasionally be seen even now about old farm-houses. Some of the families would ride to church in these



chairs, and then taking them out of their wagons, would carry them into church for use during service. Others kept such seats especially for use in the sanctuary. A great many would ride to church on horseback. One horse generally carried a man and his wife, and very frequently the baby also. Carriages were unknown. The first family carriage in this vicinity was owned by Mr. John H. Smock, and was purchased about eighty years ago. Farm-wagons without springs were thought to be comfortable. There were no means for heating the church. Stoves were not in existence. Private houses were made warm by the use of large fire-places, but churches were built without chimneys.

In this building the congregation worshiped more than ninety years. It was taken down in 1826 to make room for the present church edifice. Mr. Haeghoort continued the pastor of the church only four years, and when resigning his call, August 17, 1735, left one hundred and nineteen persons in the communion of the church, sixty-seven of whom were in the congregation of Freehold and fifty-two in that of Middletown.

The year following the resignation of Mr. Haeghoort the Rev. Reynhard Erickzon was recommended to the consistory by the Rev. Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen,<sup>1</sup> of Raritan. The result is thus recorded in the handwriting of Mr. Frelinghuysen:

"In the year 1736, in December, a meeting of the Consistory was held at Freehold of the Navesink, at which were read the call of the Rev. Reynhard Erickzon, and his honorable dismission and certificate from the congregation at Schenectady. The which certificate being found lawful and constitutional, the Rev. R. Erickzon was received and recognized as pastor and teacher of the congregation of Freehold and Middletown, by the Rev. Consistory of that place.

"T. J. FRELINGHUYSEN, President Pro Tem."

Dominie Erickzon was a Swede. He came to America in 1725. He was then about twenty-five years of age.

He sailed from Holland with his brother and sister in the ship "King George," Captain Saul Payton. He was first settled at Hackensack, Paramus and Schraalenbergh, where his labors were very greatly blessed, and converts were multiplied. After a three years' ministry he removed to Schenectady, N. Y. He was married twice,—the first time, in 1726, at Hackensack, to Maria Provost; the second time, while settled here, in 1736, to Sarah Luyster, the widow of Rulif Brokaw, and daughter of Johannes Luyster and Lucretia Brower, who resided near Middletown village. In the latter part of his ministry—which lasted for twenty-seven years—he became a victim to the drinking customs of the day. The consistory made out charges against him, withheld his salary and excluded him from the pulpit. He continued to reside in the parsonage until 1770, six year after his successor was called. He then removed to New Brunswick, and resided with his daughter, Mrs. Van Norden. He died soon after this, and his widow returned to Middletown, her native place. His remains, it is said, were also conveyed to Monmouth County for burial. If so, he lies in an unknown grave, though worthy of being honored as one of the fathers of the American Reformed Church. An excellent portrait of him is in the possession of Rev. Garret C. Schenk.

In 1764, the same year in which Mr. Erickzon's ministry closed, Rev. Benjamin Du Bois, a young man, just licensed by the American Classis to preach the gospel, was called to occupy the vacant pulpit. There is no record to be found of his installation and ordination. He was born at Pittsgrove, Salem County, N. J., March 30, 1739, and was baptized in the Presbyterian Church there, in which his father was an elder. He was the son of Lewis Du Bois, a lineal descendant of the French Huguenots of New Paltz. His mother's name was Margaret Jansen, who was born in Kingston, of Low Dutch descent. He was educated at Poughkeepsie, and studied theology with Rev. Johannes H. Goetschius, of Hackensack, N. J. A short time after his settlement here he married Phemertje Denise, the daughter of Tunis Denise and Francynthe Hendrickson, of Freehold, a woman of

<sup>1</sup> The first minister of the Reformed Church in Central New Jersey, 1720. Gilbert Tennent, George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards speak of him as one of the great divines of the American Church. He was the great-grandfather of the late Honorable Theodore Frelinghuysen, who for many years was president of Rutgers College.—See *Corwin's Manual of the Reformed Church*, p. 87.





intelligence and activity, sprightly, prudent and pious. They had ten children,—four sons and six daughters,—all of whom were married, were highly respected for their virtuous principles and became members in full communion of the church. Four of them settled in this locality, and their descendants are very largely represented here to-day.

During the period of Mr. Du Bois' ministry a new house of worship was erected at Middletown, on the place where the old one stood. The subscription for defraying the necessary expenses bears date February 28, 1764. This was in the midst of the Coetus difficulties, and the decided Conferentia principles of the congregation are manifested by the peculiar wording of the subscription. It is expressly stipulated, "The church for which we subscribe is to be the National Church of the High Synod of Dort, established in the years 1618 and 1619." The house of worship thus erected was known for many years as the Red Meeting-House. It corresponded in size with the one at Freehold, and was very much such a building. It was used for divine worship until the erection of the Holmdel Church.

In 1785 the church building at Freehold was repaired and improved. A chimney was built and a large stove purchased. The rude benches which had formerly been used were taken out and replaced with pews. To meet this expense, the pews were sold at public auction. The terms of the sale are carefully penned in the handwriting of the pastor. From these it appears all right and title to a pew should cease so soon as a pew-holder or his heirs should cease to pay for the support of the minister.

The contention respecting the change from Dutch to English preaching commenced with the settlement of Mr. Du Bois. The English language was introduced in the Freehold congregation during the first year of his ministry, without much opposition. But not so at Middletown. In that congregation there were some who yielded a very reluctant consent, and a few who bitterly opposed it to the very last. At a meeting of the consistory in 1766, held at Freehold, it was "*Resolved*, that those who wish to enjoy the services of our minister in

the English language, in our church at Middletown, shall have their request to the half of the service in that congregation." About twenty years after this, in 1785, it was resolved, in a church council at Middletown, that the Dutch and English preaching shall be in proportion to Dutch and English subscription for salary. The following year it was ascertained, in compliance with this resolution, that the proportion of Dutch service should not be more than three Sabbaths a year, and it was left to the option of the pastor to make an address in English after the Dutch service. It was also "*Resolved*, that if, for want of Dutch singers, it seem expedient, the pastor, if he choose, may have English singing and preach in Dutch." The dominie certainly enjoyed the preaching in Dutch.

In 1817, Mr. Du Bois was relieved from the active duties of the ministry by the labors of a colleague, but he was never declared *Emeritus*, and the pastoral relation was dissolved only by his death. He was the settled pastor of this church for sixty-three years. That is by far the longest pastorate in the history of the Reformed Church in America. He received one hundred and sixty-six persons into the communion of the church, baptized twelve hundred and eighty-three infants, married seven hundred and twenty-five couples. The last marriage ceremony he performed was September 28, 1818, when he united in marriage Denise Denise and Altie Hulse. He died August 21, 1827.

During the ministry of Mr. Du Bois, communion Sabbaths were called Great Meeting days. The audience was larger than at any other time. Every communicant, if possible, was present. The services were long. Many brought a lunch to eat between the morning and afternoon sessions. It was a time of reunion and friendly cheer, as well as of holy communion with God. But this is not all. There were in those days, as now there are, those who improved every opportunity to make a few pennies. There was in front of the old church a large chestnut-tree, and under that tree, on Great Meeting days, there was always to be seen a man with a wagon offering for sale cakes and small beer. Nor were customers lacking.



After the sermon the great majority of those who were not communicants were in the habit of leaving the church and thought it no harm to refresh themselves with the offered cake and beer. There are those now living who can remember, that as children, they beguiled the time of service by feeling of the pennies in their pockets, with which they expected to treat themselves at the small beer wagon when the sermon closed.

In 1817 the Classis of New Brunswick, in answer to an application from the consistory of the Reformed Church of Freehold and Middletown for ministerial supplies, because of the infirmities of their pastor, appointed three young men, who had just been licensed, to occupy the pulpit. One was afterward known as Rev. Isaac N. Wyckoff, D.D., for many years pastor of the Middle Reformed Church, at Albany. Another was afterwards known as Rev. John Ludlow, D.D., LL.D., professor of Hebrew, ecclesiastical history, church government and pastoral theology. The third was afterward known as Rev. Samuel A. Van Vranken, D.D., professor of didactic theology. In September of that year the consistory presented a call to the Rev. Mr. Van Vranken. His ordination and installation as pastor took place in the Freehold Church the first Sabbath of April, 1818. The sermon was preached by Rev. John L. Zabriskie, Revs. James S. Canon, John S. Vredenberg and Benjamin Du Bois delivering the charges to the pastor and people, and taking part in the devotional exercises.

Since the organization of the church its pastors had resided in the Freehold congregation, and now, as the parsonage at Freehold was occupied by Mr. Du Bois, the Middletown people desired their new pastor to dwell among them. To gratify their wishes, the consistory inaugurated measures for the purchase of a parsonage at Middletown. The property selected was that now occupied by Rev. Dr. William Reiley, of Holmdel. There Dr. Van Vranken commenced house-keeping, and there he dwelt until 1826. He was born at Hopewell in 1790. He graduated from the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick in 1817. A short time, after he married Miss Maria Gansevoort, of Albany, a

descendant of Wessel Gansevoort, of Groningen, "one of the Morning Stars of the Reformation in Holland." This lady died while Mr. Van Vranken was pastor of this church. Dr. Van Vranken was again married twice,—first, to a Miss Swift, of Poughkeepsie, and then to Mrs. Mary Boulden, of Delaware.

In 1834, after a pastorate of sixteen years, Dr. Van Vranken accepted a call to the First Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie. There he remained about three years, when he removed to New York and became pastor of the Broome Street congregation, from which position he was called in 1841, by the General Synod of the Reformed Church, to occupy the chair of didactic theology in the seminary at New Brunswick. This position he filled with credit to himself and honor to the church until the day of his death, January 1, 1861.

In 1825, seven years after Mr. Van Vranken's installation, the consistory petitioned the Classis of New Brunswick to organize two churches out of the church they represented. The causes which led to such a request were the great extent of the congregation and the distance which many were compelled to travel every other Sabbath to enjoy divine worship. There were twenty-seven gates between the house of Mr. Uriah Smock, near the village of Marlborough, and the church at Middletown, to be opened and shut, both in going to and returning from church. Many other residences were shut in in like manner. And now the imperative necessity of a new house of worship at Freehold, the location of which had occasioned considerable feeling, and disturbed to some extent the peace of the congregation, brought on the issue, Shall we continue under one pastorate or become two distinct churches?

Dr. Van Vranken desired to build one large church in the centre of the two congregations, to take the place of the two houses of worship in which he was then preaching on alternate Sabbaths. The people were divided in opinion. The Classis appointed a committee to investigate the matter, possessing talent enough to settle the gravest questions of state. Its chairman was Rev. James S. Canon. Associated with him were Revs. John L. Zabriskie and James B.





Hardenbergh, and the elders, John Frelinghuysen, of Somerville, and Jacob R. Hardenbergh, of New Brunswick. This committee, after holding divine service in the church at Middletown, met with a committee appointed by the two congregations to present their views, and then conferred with other prominent and influential ones who chanced to be present. The meeting was harmonious, and with one mind desired the division of the congregation, believing it would tend to the enlargement of each of the congregations, and be the means also of making friendship therein. Dr. Canon recommended the formation of the two congregations, according to the requirements of the church constitution. The Classis adopted his recommendation, and also, with others, the following resolution: "That the line which divides the township of Freehold from the township of Middletown be recommended to be the line of division, for the present, between the congregations of Freehold and Middletown, when formed." By this action of the Classis, the united congregations of Freehold and Middletown, which for nearly a hundred and twenty-five years had enjoyed the labors of the same pastors, had mingled their voices in the worship of God, had consecrated their children to the Lord at the same baptismal font and had gathered about the same communion-table, were severed in twain, November 28, 1825, the larger portion becoming the First Reformed Church of Freehold, the other the Reformed Church of Middletown, which has since been incorporated the Reformed Church of Holmdel.

Henceforth their history flows in two distinct and separate channels. It is proposed to trace here the course of only the main branch of the divided stream,—the First Reformed Church of Freehold. Eighty families and sixty-eight communicants were represented by this corporate title. The consistory was composed of three elders and three deacons. Garret Wyckoff, Daniel I. Schenck and Aaron Smock were the elders; Joseph Van Cleef, Denise Schenck and Garret G. Conover were the deacons.

The first act of the consistory was to extend

a call to the Rev. Samuel A. Van Vranken to become their pastor. It was accepted at once, and Mr. Van Vranken's relation to the "United Congregation of Freehold and Middletown" dissolved by Classis April 19, 1826. On Sunday, the 22d of the previous January, he had preached a farewell sermon to the Middletown congregation, and, vacating their parsonage, had moved within the bounds of the Freehold congregation April 11th. Mr. Van Vranken was a very popular preacher, and his great popularity as a pulpit orator caused the Classis, when dissolving his pastoral relation with the united congregations, and approving the call of the First Church of Freehold, to adopt the useless and impracticable resolution, "that it be enjoined upon the consistories of Freehold and Middletown, so soon as may be convenient, to take the late recommendation of Classis, in regard to a division line between the two congregations, into their serious consideration." It was never convenient. The consistories were wiser than the Classis. No body of men can dictate the place where Christian families shall worship. Convenience, inclination or preference will invariably determine church relations. Arrangements were made, but never perfected, for the installation of Mr. Van Vranken at the Freehold Church, on the third Sabbath of July. A question was raised in relation to the necessity of installation services. As Mr. Van Vranken had already been installed the pastor of the same people who now called him again, and had never vacated the pulpit he occupied, it seemed to many a superfluous thing to have him reinstalled. It took the Classis two full years to decide the matter. The letter of the law was obeyed, and formal installation services were held April 16, 1828. The Rev. James Romeyn preached the sermon. The Rev. James B. Hardenbergh delivered the charge to the pastor and the Rev. J. Tenbrook Beekman the charge to the people.

The settlement of the affairs of the two congregations was pushed forward with energy. At a meeting held the 2d day of January, 1826, it was unanimously agreed "that the church edifice, and grounds adjacent thereto,



should be considered the exclusive property of the congregation worshipping therein; that all the other property, whether real or personal, belonging to the corporation of the United Congregations at the time of their separation, shall be equally divided between the two, the one moiety, or half, to each; that all moneys in hand at the time of their separation, or thereafter to be collected, shall be equally divided, whether arising from subscriptions, bonds, notes or otherwise and that all debts shall be equally borne by each, and paid previous to any division of the property." A fairer settlement could not be adjusted. Its realization was attended with difficulties. Ill feeling was engendered, bitter words were spoken and the peace of the two congregations greatly disturbed. The storm soon passed by, the final settlement between the congregations taking place May 6, 1826. At this settlement the consistory of this church received \$2555. They were the possessors, also, of \$2500 received from the estate of Tunis G. Van Der Veer. They also had \$3750, the half of the sum received from the sale of the parsonage farm,—making a total of \$8805, with which to commence their independent career.

The only real estate of which they were possessed was the land adjacent to an old church, so thoroughly out of repair that the building of a new one was an imperative necessity. They had no parsonage, and for this purpose purchased the small farm of about eighteen acres, in the southwestern portion of the congregation, now owned and occupied by Mr. Daniel Van Mater. There the pastors of this church resided for nearly forty years. When the property was purchased, it cost the congregation \$3766.

Early in the spring of 1826 measures were inaugurated for securing a new church. There was considerable difficulty in determining its location. Some of the congregation desired to have it built on Hendrickson's Hill, the place already mentioned as the site of the first Reformed Church in Monmouth County. But in April the consistory unanimously resolved to erect a new house of worship "on the site of the present church." They also determined

that the building should be forty-five feet wide and fifty-five feet long, and that it should be of brick, with a steeple and a gallery. Mr. James I. Baird and Mr. Garret H. Smock were appointed a building committee, subject to the direction of the consistory.

On Sunday, the 4th of June, Mr. Van Vranken preached a farewell sermon to the old building, which since 1732, a period of ninety-four years, had echoed with the praises of Almighty God, and to many was endeared above all the places of earth. After the old building was taken down, and while the new one was in course of erection, Mr. Van Vranken preached at the court-house, in Freehold village, and also in the vicinity of Colt's Neck, sometimes at Mr. Statesir's, and frequently in a barn on the old Stoutenburgh farm, the property now owned by Mr. Ryall. The work on the new church was pushed forward with energy and zeal. So far as practicable, the materials of the old building were used in the construction of the new. A well was dug, not far from the road, in the present churchyard, to supply the necessary water. This well remained many years after the church was finished. A shed for cooking purposes was put up on the church-grounds, not far from the building, that the laborers might be boarded, and much expense saved. The bricks were made and burnt on the farm now occupied by Mr. John H. Van Mater, adjoining the church property. Captain Isaac Herbert, who was learning his trade with Mr. James Thompson, the blacksmith, on whose anvil all the necessary iron fixtures for the church were wrought, carted the first load of sand with an ox-team. The day was very warm, and one of the oxen, when returning home, fell dead in the road. The greater part of the carting was done by Joseph Van Der Veer, who, when the present pastor moved into the parsonage, came to bid him welcome, saying he had welcomed Dominie Van Vranken, and every minister since his day, to their home in the parsonage.

The corner-stone of the new building was laid some time in July, and the building was completed the following year. The marble tablet in the front of the building was the gift







of Mr. Hull, a stone-cutter at Matawan. It bears this inscription:

#### REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH.

ERECTED A. D. 1826.

"Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools." Eccle. 5: 1.

The first religious services held within the walls of the new church were the funeral ceremonies of the Rev. Benjamin Du Bois, August 23d.

The building cost about ten thousand dollars, rather more than less. Its appearance, when completed, differed within from its appearance at present. The pulpit was higher; back of the pulpit there was a window, and above the window a gilded dove. The elders' and deacons' seats, and other pews filling up the space, were each side of the pulpit, where the stoves now stand. The change was made in 1853, through a committee of which Mr. Uriah Smock was chairman. No other material alterations have been made.

The building was dedicated by the pastor Sunday, the 9th day of September, 1827. The pastor also preached a sermon suitable to the occasion. An original anthem and an original hymn, prepared for the occasion, were sung by the choir. The singing was led by Mr. Garret H. Smock. Among those who assisted him were Mr. John Conover, Mr. Garret S. Smock (deceased), Mrs. Sydney Schenck, Mrs. Benjamin Du Bois, Mrs. John Henry Van Der Veer, Mrs. Elizabeth Du Bois, Mrs. Jacob Probasco, Mr. Aaron Smock, Miss Phœbe Van Der Veer and Mr. Daniel Polhemus Smock, who afterwards for many years was the church chorister.

Mr. Van Vranken continued to occupy the pulpit of the new church for about seven years. In July, 1834, he received a call from the Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie, and his pastoral relation with this people was dissolved by the action of Classis the 23d of that month. During the eight years of his pastorate, immediately following the separation of the congregation, the eighty families and sixty-eight communicants, with which the First Church of Freehold commenced its independent existence,

became one hundred and thirty families and one hundred and fifty-nine communicants.

The Rev. James Otterson was Mr. Van Vranken's successor. He was formally installed the first Wednesday of January, 1835. Dr. Abraham Messler, of Somerville, preached the sermon. The charge to the pastor was delivered by Dr. Howe, of New Brunswick, and that to the people by Dr. Sears, of Six-Mile Run. The relation thus formed was of short duration. It was dissolved November 27, 1838. Mr. Otterson died of paralysis at the residence of his namesake son, in Philadelphia, September 17, 1867.

To succeed Mr. Otterson the consistory called the Rev. Aaron A. Marcellus in 1839. He was installed the last Wednesday of May. On this occasion the Rev. James K. Campbell, of North Branch, preached the sermon. The Rev. J. Tenbrook Beekman delivered the charge to the pastor and the Rev. J. C. Sears the charge to the people.

Mr. Marcellus was born at Amsterdam, N. Y., in 1799. His ancestors were Dutch. He graduated from Union College in 1826, from the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick in 1830, and the same year was licensed to preach the gospel by the Classis of New York. His first settlement was as pastor of the Reformed Church at Lysander, N. Y. In 1831 he removed to Schaghticoke, in 1834 to Manhattan. In 1836 he became principal of the Lancaster Academy, which position he resigned, in 1839, to take charge of this church. This was by far his longest pastorate, extending over a period of twelve years. In 1851 he resigned his call and commenced teaching in New York City. In 1856 he assumed the pastorate of the church at Greenville, but after a ministry of about three years commenced teaching at Bergen, where he died in 1860.

In 1835 the rapid growth of the village of Freehold, and the large number of the families of the congregation residing in its vicinity, caused the consistory to purchase a lot in the village from Mr. Cyrus Bruen, and to commence the erection thereon of a house of worship. The corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies by the Rev. James



Otterson in the spring of 1836, but when the frame was raised and partly inclosed, work was suspended for want of funds. The building remained in this unfinished condition for nearly two years. The consistory thought of abandoning the enterprise, and would have done so, it is said, but for the earnest protest of Mrs. John H. Smock. When her husband related the views of the consistory, she shook her head and made reply, saying, "No, John; no. That church ought to be finished and must be finished." Mr. Smock was of the same opinion. He started a subscription, advanced money and pushed the work forward with such success that the completed building was dedicated by the Rev. James Otterson, February 1, 1838. It cost the congregation, exclusive of the lot, about five thousand dollars.

At one time an attempt was made to again consolidate the Freehold and Middletown congregations, and call two pastors for the three pulpits. When Mr. Marcellus was called, in 1839, it was stipulated that he should preach twice on the Sabbath,—in the Brick Church in the forenoon, and in the church in the village of Freehold in the afternoon. But this arrangement soon proved very unsatisfactory to the village people. They naturally desired a morning service, and finally resolved to organize the Second Reformed Church of Freehold. Mr. Ebenezer Conover and Mr. David Buck were appointed a committee to petition Classis, and the church was organized the first Tuesday in October, 1842. The church was formed almost entirely from this congregation, and they at once requested a full warranty deed for the church property in the village. The consistory refused to grant their request, because those still remaining in the Brick Church congregation had expended at least three thousand five hundred dollars in the erection of the building, and the congregation having been weakened in their ability to support a pastor, did not feel able to present the new congregation with a house of worship. But desirous of encouraging the enterprise, they offered to give them a clear title for fifteen hundred dollars. This generous offer was not accepted. They then offered

the church for one thousand dollars, but even this magnanimous offer was rejected; and so, finally, in 1846, four years after their organization, the village congregation offered this consistory seven hundred and fifty dollars for the village church. The offer was accepted, and thus was consummated the cheapest transfer of real estate the county clerk has ever recorded.

The ministry of Mr. Marcellus was very greatly blessed, so that, although a church had been formed out of the congregation, he had the satisfaction of seeing their places more than filled. When commencing his ministry the membership of the church was one hundred and thirty-seven. When the pastoral relation was dissolved it was one hundred and eighty-four. To the ministry of Mr. Marcellus two important institutions of the church owe their origin,—the Sabbath-school and the week-day prayer meeting. The Sabbath-school was organized in 1840. It was held, for want of a better place, in the gallery of the church, and there it has ever since convened. It is known as the Brick Church Sabbath-School, and is in session only through the warm months of the year. The first year of its existence it reported one hundred and eight scholars, with an average attendance of eighty. Its first superintendent was Mr. William Statesir. He was succeeded by Mr. William Spader, who superintended the school for twenty years with great ability and success. Mr. Lafayette G. Schenck was superintendent a short time, when Mr. Lafayette Schenck, the present superintendent, assumed the office. There are in this school four large adult Bible classes, an infant class, thirteen teachers and one hundred scholars.

In 1851 the Rev. Ralph Willis succeeded Mr. Marcellus. He was installed September 23d. Mr. Willis was a graduate of Rutgers College and of the Theological Seminary of New Brunswick. He was licensed by the Classis of Philadelphia, and ordained to the gospel ministry as pastor of the Reformed Church at Bethlehem, N. Y., in 1842. His ministry here embraces a period of over sixteen years. The pastoral relation was dissolved February 28, 1868.

In 1852 a second Sabbath-school was organ-





ized at Marlborough. It met in the district school-house, and was intended only as a winter school. It was at first superintended by Mr. Willis himself. Those who have occupied the office of superintendent are too numerous to mention. Those who have done so for the longest period are Mr. Lafayette G. Schenck and Mr. John Baird. Since the erection of the chapel this school has been maintained both summer and winter. It is known as the Marlborough Chapel Sabbath-School.

In 1855 the church-grounds for burial purposes were enlarged by the addition of an acre of land on the west side of the church, and in 1866 a similar addition was made on the east side, and the sheds which formerly stood in the rear of the church were removed to their present position, greatly enhancing the appearance of the cemetery, which is rapidly becoming one of the most picturesque and beautiful. The church building was also put in thorough repair and the wood-work painted. The improvements cost the congregation about two thousand dollars.

In 1868 the Rev. George Swain succeeded Mr. Willis. He was installed September 1st. He was a graduate of the college and seminary at New Brunswick, and had been ordained, in 1866, by the Classis of New Brunswick, at Middlebush, Somerset County, N. J., which position he resigned at the call of this people. At his installation the Rev. Garret C. Schenck presided and read the form. The charge to the pastor was delivered by the Rev. Samuel Lockwood, and the Rev. James Bolton delivered the charge to the people. Mr. Swain's ministry proved to be a short one. He resigned his call in April, 1873, to take charge of the Gates Avenue Presbyterian Church, of Brooklyn, N. Y. This position he occupied about two years, when he became pastor of the Old Presbyterian Church, at Allentown, Monmouth County, where he still resides.

Immediately after the settlement of Mr. Swain, measures were inaugurated for securing a lecture-room or chapel in the village of Marlborough. Various causes rendered such a building desirable. The village was growing, and many of its inhabitants, in the communion

of the church, were unable to attend the services in this house of worship with regularity and convenience. In 1869 a suitable lot of about half an acre, on the west side of Main Street, in the centre of the village, was purchased by the consistory, and a committee appointed to secure the erection of a chapel. Messrs. Uriah Smock, Peter L. Cortelyou, Lafayette Schenck and Dr. Lewis I. Gordon constituted this committee. They pushed the work forward with energy and zeal. The building they erected is twenty-six feet wide and forty-six feet long, and cost the congregation two thousand seven hundred and twenty-five dollars. The pulpit was provided by the consistory of the Second Reformed Church of Freehold. The bell was donated by Mr. Peter L. Cortelyou. The head-light over the door was the gift of Mr. David R. Hobart. The clock was presented by the Hon. Garret A. Hobart, of Paterson, N. J., and the Bible and hymn-book by Mrs. John E. Conover. The building was dedicated, entirely free from debt, November 21, 1869.

In 1870 the congregation determined to dispose of the farm which for forty years had been the home of their pastors, and build a parsonage at Marlborough village. To carry out this desire a committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Peter L. Cortelyou, Uriah Smock, Peter C. Van Der Veer, A. W. Hobart and Peter C. Du Bois. A suitable lot near the chapel, but on the opposite side of the street, was purchased of Mr. William W. Herbert for five hundred and fifty dollars. The farm was sold for six thousand one hundred and ten dollars, and a pleasant home erected for the pastor's use. The building cost four thousand three hundred and twenty-five dollars; the necessary grading and fencing and outside improvements, about thirteen hundred dollars. The house is an ornament to the village, and with slight alterations, to be made in the future, will be as convenient and ample a dwelling-place as any one could desire.

The present pastor was called from the First Reformed Church of Bayonne City, N. J., the latter part of July, 1873. He commenced his labors the first Sabbath of September, and was installed the 7th day of October. The Rev.



Dr. Hageman presided, read the form and delivered the charge to the pastor. The sermon, by request of Classis, was preached by the Rev. Ransford Wells, D.D., then of Brookfield, Conn., from Hebrews xiii. 17,—“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls as they that must give account.” The charge to the people was delivered by the Rev. James B. Wilson.

Since 1709 the congregation has been in charge of ten pastors. They have been of various nationalities, and the record is amusing. Of Welsh, Hollandish, Swedish, French and English descent there has been one each; of Scottish descent, two; of American Dutch, three. The present pastor is the only one “to the manor born,”—the only New Jersey Dutchman, born, baptized, educated, licensed and ordained in the Reformed Church, who has ministered here.

Of the membership of the church, three have consecrated themselves to the gospel ministry. The first to do so was the Rev. William Schenck, who was born October 13, 1740. His parents were Court Schenck and Maria Cowenhoven. They lived on the farm now occupied by Mr. Uriah Smock, and gave their child, William, to God in holy baptism, January 20, 1741. When twenty-three years of age he married Miss Anna Cummings, a daughter of Robert Cummings, high sheriff of Monmouth County, and a granddaughter of the wife of Rev. William Tennent. He commenced studying for the ministry in the fall of 1763, graduated from the College of New Jersey, at Princeton, in 1767, studied theology with Rev. William Tennent, and was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick in 1770. He was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Allentown, N. J., in 1771. In 1777 he assumed the pastorate of the Reformed Churches of North and South Hampton, Pa., where he remained for three years. This was his only charge in the church of his fathers. In 1780 he removed to Pittsgrove, N. J., and became pastor of the Presbyterian Church in which Rev. Benjamin Dubois was baptized. After a ministry here of six years he settled at Ballston,

near Saratoga. Here he continued until 1793, when he removed to Huntington, L. I. This was his last pastorate. In 1817 he resigned his charge, retired from the active duties of the ministry, and moved to Franklin County, Ohio, where he died September 1, 1823, in the eighty-third year of his age. One of his grandsons has for many years been an admiral in the United States navy.

The other members of this church who have entered the ministry are the Rev. Garret C. Schenck, who united with the church February 2, 1827, and the Rev. Edward P. Livingstone, who united with the church in December, 1854, and who is laboring in the West with remarkable success.

**THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT MARLBOROUGH** is of recent origin, as compared with many of the other religious organizations of the county. The first record of Baptist preaching in Marlborough was by Rev. W. D. Hires, of Holmdel, who began some time in 1836, but how often and for what length of time there is no account. There were a few Baptists in the vicinity; among them was Miss Ella G. Herbert, a member of the Freehold Baptist Church, who died October 16, 1861. In her last will she bequeathed five hundred dollars to purchase a lot upon which to erect a house of worship for a Baptist Church, yet to be formed. As no Baptist meetings were held in the place, nothing was done until the spring of 1865, when Mr. O. C. Herbert, a brother of the deceased, purchased a small shoe-shop, placing it on Hudson Street, and fitted it up for a select school. Soon after, Rev. James Teed preached in the school-room. Hearing of this, Rev. D. S. Parmelee, of Freehold, appointed a meeting for the fourth Sunday in June, 1865, in the school-room, and preached from Matthew vi. 33, and was followed in remarks by Rev. Sidney Dyer, of the American Baptist Publication Society, of Philadelphia, when a Baptist Sunday-school was organized, of fourteen scholars and six teachers. William C. Reid, of the Freehold Church, was chosen superintendent. The Rev. Mr. Dyer secured a donation of ten dollars from the Publication Society,





the Freehold Church gave ten dollars, and the friends at Marlborough added to those sums sufficient to purchase a library of one hundred volumes and other needed supplies; Mr. O. C. Herbert gave the use of the room for the Sunday-school and preaching services; the Rev. D. S. Parmelee engaged to supply with preaching the fourth Sunday of each month, and thus was commenced the school and embryo Baptist Church. During the summer the school increased to thirty scholars. At this time Rev. C. D. Warner, a licentiate of the Holmdel Baptist Church, commenced preaching on the second Sunday of each month.

In the autumn of 1865 subscriptions were taken in Marlborough, Freehold and Holmdel for the erection of the house of worship, and Mr. O. C. Herbert, of Marlborough, James W. Perrine, of Freehold, James C. Taylor and C. D. Warner, of Holmdel, were appointed a building committee, with instructions to erect a house of worship at a cost not exceeding two thousand dollars, and on the 26th of August, 1866, the corner-stone of the meeting-house was laid in the presence of a large assembly. Addresses were delivered by Rev. D. H. Miller, of Trenton, and D. S. Parmelee. The stone, in which were deposited the usual documents and papers, together with the history of the Baptist interest in Marlborough to that day, was laid by D. S. Parmelee. A collection was taken, amounting to about three hundred and ninety-five dollars.

About this time the Rev. C. E. Wilson, of Holmdel, began preaching in Marlborough the third Sunday of each month, and F. A. Slater on the first Sunday of each month, so that a sermon was heard at four P.M. every Sunday in each month, and the record adds, as a significant fact, "at no expense to us."

The house was inclosed and the lecture room finished and dedicated February 10, 1867; sermon by Rev. D. B. Stont, of Middletown, Rev. D. S. Parmelee offering the prayer of dedication. Revival meetings were then commenced and continued until the 19th of April, and on the 6th of June following fifteen converts were baptized. Mr. Warner continued his services until April 1, 1869, and Mr. Wilson until May of

the same year, Revs. Parmelee and Slater continuing for some time longer.

On the 16th of March, 1869, agreeably to the advice of a council, the Baptists of Marlborough and vicinity met in the lecture-room of the church, at four P.M., to take measures for the constitution of a regular Baptist Church. After a sermon from D. S. Parmelee, Rev. F. A. Slater was chosen moderator and D. S. Parmelee clerk, after which letters of dismission were presented by fifteen persons from the church at Freehold, eleven from Holmdel, two from Oxford, N. Y., one from Herbertsville and two from Matawan,—in all, thirty-one. After the reading of the letters, it was resolved to unite in covenant relations as a church of Christ, subject to the judgment of a council of recognition, and to adopt as the church covenant and articles of faith that generally known as the "New Hampshire Confession."

On the 25th of the same month the council of delegates, from twelve Baptist Churches, met at Marlborough, and resolved that the recognition take place immediately after the dedication services. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. H. F. Smith, of New Brunswick; the prayer was offered by Rev. D. S. Parmelee. The recognition services followed immediately. Prayer by Rev. D. B. Stont; hand of fellowship, Rev. C. W. Clark; address to the church by Rev. F. A. Slater. A statement of the debt upon the church property was then made, when a subscription of more than four thousand dollars was taken,—sufficient to liquidate the entire debt.

In October, 1869, the church was visited by E. C. Romine, a licentiate of the church at Sandy Ridge, who continued with us until November. On the 26th he was, by a large council, ordained to the work of the ministry, the veteran evangelist, Rev. Jacob Knapp, preaching the sermon; soon after which Mr. Romine left to engage in evangelistic labors elsewhere.

The following-named ministers have served the church as pastors during its history of fifteen years: Rev. George Johnson, from March, 1870, until February 1, 1871, resigned on account of ill health; Rev. E. C. Romine, called for three months from May 1, 1871; Rev. S. L. Cox, from February 25, 1872, until July 1, 1873;



Rev. James Thorn, from September 21, 1873, until August 23, 1874; Rev. B. C. Morse, settled as pastor December 20, 1874, ended by his being called up higher, April 29, 1876. Rev. S. L. Cox commenced a second pastorate over the church, the first Sabbath of September, 1876, and resigned September 2, 1878; Rev. J. James Baker, the present pastor, commenced his labors March 1, 1879. The first deacons were R. R. Sutphen and Ruloff Voorhees, since which time S. T. Hendrickson, H. S. Conover, H. Emmons, Lemuel Wooley and P. V. Broach have served in that office. The board of deacons at present consists of W. H. Heyer, O. C. Herbert and William C. Weeks. In the clerkship the church has been served by O. C. Herbert, James E. Johnson and H. W. Heyer. The present clerk is George B. Herbert.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CONGREGATION OF ST. GABRIEL'S, in Marlborough township, was first organized, in 1871, by the Rev. Father Kivelitz, of Freehold. Mass was celebrated once a month, and religious instruction given to the children once a week, in a private house. In 1878 a church building was erected (on a lot donated by Patrick Fallon), and was consecrated on the 4th of November in that year by Archbishop Corrigan. The church, which is located near the Bradevelt Railroad Station, is a brick structure, thirty by fifty feet in dimensions, and capable of seating two hundred and twenty persons. During the past four years Mass has been celebrated here every second Sunday by Father Kivelitz, who is still in charge of the congregation.

THE SCHOOLS OF MARLBOROUGH are taught in the seven school districts comprised in the township, which contain six hundred and eighty-six children of school age. The school property is valued at six thousand three hundred dollars.

Pleasant Valley District, No. 38.—The earliest school-house in this district was doubtless the one that stood on the land of Captain John Schenck,<sup>1</sup> now owned by his grandson, David

Schenck, Jr. David Schenck, Sr., was born in 1783, and attended school first in this old house, about 1790. This house was used until 1834, when it was abandoned. The present house was built about 1840, and, with occasional repairs, is still in use. The district now contains ninety-seven children.

Magee School District, No. 41.—The lot on which this school-house stands was sold by John Quackenbush, December 2, 1822, to Richard Magee and Isaac Quackenbush, "trustees of the school in the neighborhood." A school-house was erected on this lot soon after, and was in use until 1871, when it was rebuilt. It is known also as the Wooley or Union School-house. William Bayley, — Cassidy and William Crozier were among the early teachers in this house. The district contains forty-five children.

Morganville School District, No. 39.—The land on which the school-house of this district stands was donated, over fifty years ago, for school purposes by Jonathan Morgan. The house was rebuilt in February, 1873. The district contains one hundred and five children.

Robertsville School District, No. 40.—This house was built in 1832, for both school and church purposes. It is still in use. The district contains forty-three children of school age.

Marlborough School District, No. 42.—The lot on which the school-house was originally built was donated for school purposes to the district by Joseph Vandever. It was situated a half-mile from the present location. Later, a house was built in Marlborough, a short distance from the present house. About 1860 it was sold to Daniel Van Doren, on whose place it now stands. The present house was built at that time, and was rebuilt in 1874. The dis-

and who, in his time, was one of the prominent men of Monmouth County, as also one of the bravest and best of her military officers. He was a devoted patriot in the Revolution, rendering valuable service to the popular cause, and bearing a leading part in several well-contested skirmishes with the enemy. He was born August 28, 1745, and died on his birthday, 1834, at the good old age of eighty-nine years. He was buried in the old family burial-ground, in Pleasant Valley, in the western part of Holmdel township, where a fitting monument marks his grave.

<sup>1</sup>Captain John Schenck, whose residence was in the eastern part of Marlborough township, where, as above mentioned, his grandson, David Schenck, Jr., now lives,





trict contains two hundred and sixteen children of school age.

The Strong or Spring Valley School District, No. 44.—More than half a century ago Abram Pease left by will to the people in this locality a tract of ground for use as a burial-place, which was accepted and is still in use. About 1854 a school-house was erected by James Strong upon this lot and used until 1870, when the present house was erected at a cost of six hundred dollars, and the old house abandoned. The present lot was donated for school purposes only by Cornelius Honce. The district contains fifty-two children.

Brick Church School District, No. 43.—The first school-house in this locality was on land now owned by John Herbert. Peter G. Conover, now eighty-seven years of age, attended school in the house several years after 1805, under Henry Smith, teacher. He says it was then an old house. It was abandoned about 1825, and about two years later the present house (then a one-story building) was erected on the present site, adjoining the old Brick Church. Among the early teachers in this house were — Weisenfelt and James I. Ives. The latter taught seven years in this place. About 1857 a story was added to the building as it is at present. The district contains one hundred and twenty-eight pupils.

MARLBOROUGH is the most important of the several small villages of the township. Its location is in the southeastern part of the township, on the line of the Freehold and New York Railway, of which Marlborough is a station.

Many years ago the place was known as "Bucktown," and here was located the old "Buck Tavern," kept by John Buck, and, after him, by his son of the same name. In 1831 it passed to the proprietorship of Kortenijs Hiers (Hyers), by whom it was owned till after 1841. Its last proprietor was Isaac Herbert, and it was torn down in 1844. In 1845 the present Marlborough Hotel was erected at the corner, and was occupied by Uriah Smalley for several years. It has since been kept by John I. Sutphin, Gordon Sanford, William Applegate, Wil-

liam Church, Captain James Stone and others. The present proprietor is J. Akinson.

The Marlborough post-office was established before 1840, from which time until 1848, John Heyer was postmaster. He was succeeded by his son, William Heyer, who was, in turn, succeeded by James Thomson, in 1852. A. W. Hobart became postmaster in 1855, and was succeeded in 1861 by W. H. Heyer. The present postmaster is J. A. Butcher, who was appointed in 1873.

Of the old resident physicians who practiced in the township, were Drs. James Magee, Fain, Croft and Charles A. Conover. Dr. J. D. Ely is now a resident in Marlborough village.

The first store in Marlborough village was kept by John Smock, and the second by Daniel H. Van Mater. The village now contains, besides hotels and stores, a school-house, the chapel of the "Brick Church" (Reformed) and a Baptist Church. The two churches here named will be found mentioned more fully in another part of the history of this township.

In the fall of 1866 an association was formed at Marlborough to establish a select school in the village. It was incorporated February 25, 1867, and Dr. D. H. Van Mater, O. C. Herbert, C. H. Conover, Uriah Smith and John Baird were elected trustees. A lot was secured and a house erected upon it. The school was opened and was conducted with varied success until the spring of 1884, when the building was sold and moved to the railroad, where it was fitted up as the Marlborough station, and is now in that use.

ROBERTSVILLE is a small settlement in the western part of the township. About 1830 a tavern was opened at this place by one Bowne, who died before 1835, when it was owned by Mrs. Ann Bowne and kept by her son-in-law, John Magee. In that year the property was sold to Mathew Roberts, who continued the tavern until his death, in 1876. The school-house at Robertsville was built in 1832, and services were held in it by the Methodists from that time. A society has been organized and a new church building is now being erected. Dewitt McIlvaine is the pastor in charge.



**HILLSIDE**, or Hulsetown, lies on the eastern boundary of the township, adjoining the north-western corner of the township of Atlantia. At this place, about 1825, John Hulse leased land of Peter G. Conover, and established a tannery, which was carried on about twenty-five years and then abandoned. A little settlement had grown up around it and a store had been started, which is still in business. Between the settlement of Hillside and the railroad station (now called "Bradevelt") are the Brick Church (Reformed) and the Roman Catholic Church of St. Gabriel, both of which are elsewhere more fully mentioned.

**MORGANVILLE**, in the northeast part of the township, derives its name from the family of Morgan, who were early settlers here. W. S. Cloke established a store here in 1853, and built a store building in 1855. A school-house was at that time located on the present site. A post-office was established in 1868 and E. P. Coats was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded in 1879, by Charles Malcolm, the present incumbent. In 1869 a Methodist Church was erected at a cost of two thousand one hundred dollars. The pastors have been Rev. E. H. Bacon, S. P. Crasaboon and S. M. Nichols.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

**DAVID I. VAN DERVEER.**—The earliest representative of the Van Derveer (signifying "from the ferry") family was Janse Van Derveer, who emigrated from Alkmaar, in North Holland, in the ship "Otter," in 1659. He married, about 1672, Jannetje, daughter of Giles De Mandeville, to whom were born six sons and four daughters. Dominicus, one of the sons, born 1679, married, first, Jannetje, and, second, Maria Margareta Nortlyek. He was the father of seven sons and five daughters. Tunis Van Derveer, the first member of the family to settle in Monmouth County, was born about 1704, and married, about 1723, Allie Schenek, whose children were John, Jacob, Phoebe, Garret, Nelly, Tunis, Cornelius, Allehy and David. Tunis, of this number, the grandfather of David I., was born April 19, 1739, and married Jance

Honce, whose children were Tunis, John, David, Arthur, Jane, Helen and David (second). John, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch, was born April 4, 1763, and married, in 1789, Ann Bowne, whose birth occurred March 23, 1769. Their children are Joseph, born in 1790; Tunis, in 1792; John, in 1895; Jane, in 1798; Lydia, in 1800, who died in 1802; Hannah, in 1803; David I., April 19, 1806; Anna, in 1808; Catherine, in 1811; and Sarah, in 1814. David I. spent his early youth on the homestead, now occupied by his son, D. Arthur Van Derveer, receiving his education in the rudimentary branches at the neighboring public school, after which he engaged with his father in farming. He was, on the 13th of February, 1828, married to Mary, daughter of William and Ann Davis Covenhoven, whose children are Hannah (Mrs. David C. Perrine), born in 1829; William C., of Carlisle, Ohio, in 1831; John D., of Monmouth County, in 1836; and David Arthur, in 1844. Mr. Van Derveer, desiring to retain possession of the homestead which had been for a century and a half associated with the family history, after his marriage purchased the property, and continued during the remainder of his life to cultivate its productive acres. The political antecedents of the Van Derveer family are Democratic, and David I., though in this regard in full sympathy with them, rarely interested himself actively in the local political issues of the day, and invariably declined office. His integrity and executive ability rendered his services frequently in demand as trustee, executor and guardian, which offices were filled with fidelity and acceptance. He was a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and much interested in matters pertaining to agriculture. In 1831 he became connected by membership with the Tennent Church, in which he filled the office of deacon, and later transferred his membership to the Presbyterian Church at Freehold. The death of Mr. Van Derveer occurred on the 23d of July, 1884, in his seventy-ninth year. His son, D. Arthur Van Derveer, now cultivates the farm and gives special attention to the breeding of Jersey cattle, in which he has been successful. He married, on the 2d of November, 1865, Miss





Ella G., daughter of Tunis V. Schenck, and has two sons,—Tunis S., and Arthur P.

**JOHN W. HERBERT.**—Francis Herbert, the first representative of that name in New Jersey, and a grandson of Philip Herbert, fourth earl of Pembroke, with thirty associates, came from Long Island in 1677, and settled in Middletown, Monmouth County. He married Hannah, daughter of the celebrated Quaker, John Bowne, who located on Long Island in 1659.

proprietors of East Jersey, and settled in Middlesex County. Their children were three sons—John, William and Obadiah—and two daughters,—Sarah and Elizabeth. William Herbert, father of John W., who was born in 1771, in Middlesex County, N. J., married, in 1801, Eleanor, daughter of Benjamin Conover, of Monmouth County, and granddaughter of Garret Conover and Neeltje Van Mater. They had children,—Obadiah, Conover, William W., John W., Abby E., Hannah (wife of Garret Cott-



*David J. Vandervoer*

They had four sons—Thomas, Francis, David and Obadiah—and three daughters—Elizabeth, Deborah and Mary. Obadiah, in 1729, married Hannah, daughter of William Lawrence, Jr., grandson of Sir Henry Lawrence, president of Cromwell's Council, and son of William Lawrence, Sr. William Lawrence, Jr., married Ruth Gibbons. Obadiah, one of the nine children of Obadiah Herbert and Hannah Lawrence, married, in 1765, Elizabeth Warn, granddaughter of Colonel Thomas Warn, one of the

rell) and Eleanor. John W. Herbert was born on the 13th of June, 1820, in Madison township, Middlesex County, and at the age of seven years removed with his family to the farm now owned by him in Marlborough township, Monmouth County. His father, though a successful farmer, was largely engaged in building, and later, in the production of ship-timber, which was attended with much profit. He was actively identified with the public interests of Middlesex County, as justice of the peace for



many years, and on his removal to Monmouth County was appointed one of its associate judges. John W. Herbert received his education at the district schools near his home, and, in connection with his brother William, cultivated the farm for a period of eight years, after which he received the property as a gift from his father. This farm he made his home, and has since continued the healthful pursuits of a farmer, having added to his possessions by the purchase of other tracts in adjacent portions of the county until he now has one thousand acres of valuable land. Judge Herbert married, on the 24th of February, 1851, Agnes D., daughter of Savage Wright, of Pisectaway township, Middlesex County. Their children are John W. Jr., a graduate of Rutgers College and Columbia College Law School, and an attorney in Jersey City; William, a student of the Trenton Business College, and a resident of Omaha, Neb., and now in the postal service; Richard, educated at New Brunswick, who resides on the farm; Kate, a graduate of Vassar College, wife of D. M. Kelly, of Brooklyn; and Jeanne, who was educated at Saratoga. Judge Herbert is one of the representative and public-spirited citizens of the county, and was largely instrumental in securing the organization of the township of Marlborough, in 1848. A staunch Republican in his political principles, he was elected the same year its first freeholder, held the office of school superintendent from 1850 to 1863, was for fifteen years assessor and from 1874 to 1879 associate judge of the Superior Court of Common Pleas. He also, in early years, pursued the profession of a surveyor. Judge Herbert was, in 1872, a delegate to the Republican National Convention at Philadelphia, as also to the National Convention of 1884 which met in Chicago. He was for ten years chairman of the County Republican Committee of Monmouth, and for sixteen years its treasurer. He was tendered and declined the nomination for Congress in 1872, and in 1875 received the nomination as candidate for the State Senate. His ability and integrity have caused him frequently to be chosen to fill the responsible positions of executor and administrator. He has

been for years treasurer and superintendent of the Monmouth County Plank-Road Company, and is director of other turnpikes in the county, as also president of the Matawan Propeller Company. He was, from 1861 to 1865, engaged in journalism as proprietor and editor of the *Monmouth County Inquirer*, which enjoyed a period of signal prosperity under his able management. He was also owner of a carriage-factory at Keyport, and, in connection with Theodore Aunch, conducted for twelve years a large and successful business. Judge Herbert's religious associations are with the Reformed Church of Marlborough, to which he has ever been a liberal contributor.

LAFAYETTE AND STACY P. CONOVER.—The common ancestor of the Covenhoven (or Conover) family in America was Wolfhert Gerritsen Van Covenhoven, who emigrated from Ammersfort, in the province of Utrecht, Holland, in 1630, having been sent over by the patroon of Albany to look after his landed interests. He remained three or four years at Albany and then came to New Amsterdam, where he was engaged for a short period in farming on Manhattan Island. He had three sons,—Garret, Jacob and Peter,—of whom Garret settled on a farm at Flatlands, married Altje Cornelipe Cool (or Cole), and had two sons, William and John, and two daughters, Neeltje and Maritje. He died about 1644. His son William was born about 1636 and died about 1728. He married, for his second wife, Jannetje Montfoort, in 1665, and had six sons and five daughters. His son John, the great-grandfather of Lafayette Conover, was born April 9, 1681, and died in 1756. He married, about 1704, Jacoba Van Derveer, and removed to Monmouth County, settling on the farm where Peter G. Conover now resides. They had seven sons and one daughter. Their son Garret was born April 27, 1726, and died November 1, 1812. He married, first, about 1748, Neeltje Van Mater, who was the mother of three sons and two daughters. He married again, about 1786, Ann Schenek, who was born August 9, 1753, and died April 5, 1803. To this union were born three daughters and two sons. The daughters



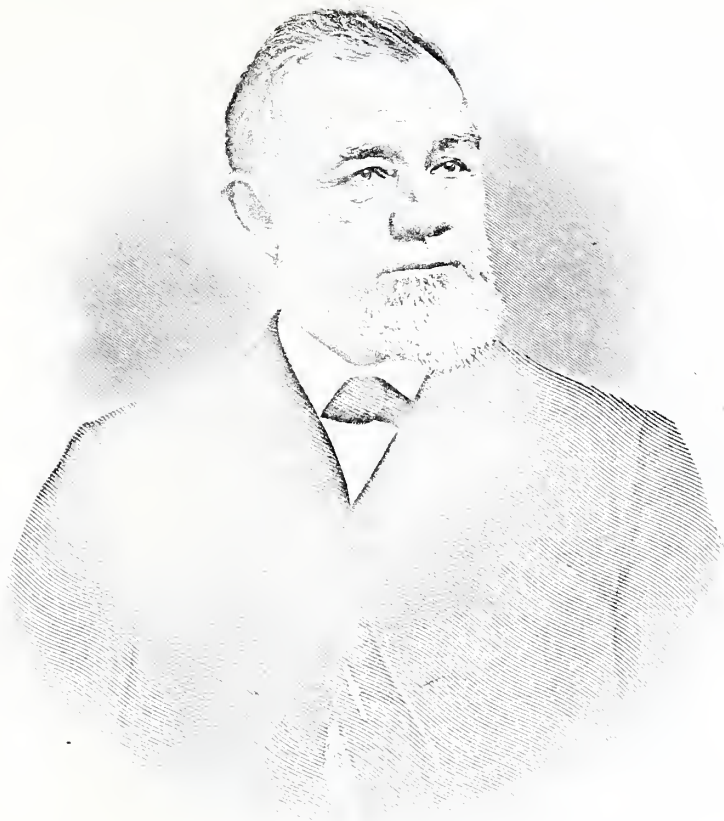




*Eng<sup>d</sup> by A.H. Fitch.*

*John W. Herbert*





Eng<sup>d</sup> by A.H. Burdette

La Fayette Bonover







*Eng.<sup>d</sup> by A.H. Ritchie.*

*Stacy L. Conover*



were Eleanor, born December 13, 1787, who married DeLafayette Schenck; Jane, born November 9, 1789, who married Stacy Priekot; and Ann, born September, 1790, who married, first, William Schenck, and, second, Theodore Rue. The sons were John, born December 17, 1791, who married Ann Smock, and Peter G., born January 2, 1797, who married, November 10, 1819, Charlotte, daughter of John Lyell, and has children,—John L.; Lafayette; Stacy P.; Garret P.; Charles, deceased; Ann Eliza, deceased (Mrs. David Beard); Eleanor, deceased (Mrs. Alfred Conover); Emma (Mrs. Ferdinand Hyers); Amanda, deceased; and Jane, deceased. Lafayette, of this number, was born February 21, 1822, on the homestead in Marlborough, still in possession of his father, and until the age of fifteen was a pupil of the district school of the neighborhood, after which his services were required upon the farm. He was, in 1846, married to Elizabeth, daughter of William R. and granddaughter of Ruloff P. Schenck, of the same township. Their children, are a son, Charles E., married to Ella, daughter of John Farry, of Matawan, who has two children, Florence May and Elizabeth; and a daughter, Jane Elizabeth, married to Charles H. Mills-paugh, whose children are Lafayette, Josephine, Ellen and Laura.

Mr. Conover, on his marriage, removed to Middletown township, where, in connection with his brother, John L., he purchased a farm and remained two years. In 1850 he returned to Marlborough and became owner of the farm which is his present residence. Here he has since been engaged in general farming and made horticulture a study, pear-culture having been attended with much success and corresponding profit. He is a member of the board of direction of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, was director and treasurer of the Holmdel Transportation Company, which he formerly, in connection with a partner, controlled, and was also a member of the board of direction of the Freehold and New York Railroad.

Mr. Conover is in politics a Democrat, having served for seven years on the Board of Chosen Freeholders and been placed on the building committee appointed to superintend the con-

struction of a new court-house and jail, on the destruction by fire of the original buildings. He has also acted as member of the township committee, collector, etc., and been identified with the most important interests of both township and county. Mr. Conover has been associated since his youth with the Reformed (Dutch) Church. Stacy P. Conover, the third son of Peter G. and Charlotte Lyell Conover, was born on the 5th of June, 1828, at the ancestral dwelling-house in Marlborough, and received a rudimentary education at the district school near his home. In youth he became familiar with the labor of the farm, and assisted in its cultivation until his majority was attained, when he managed it on shares until 1856, at which date a portion of the land was purchased by him.

He was married, on the 3d of July, 1860, to Miss Ellen L., daughter of Daniel Schenck, of Marlborough township. Mr. Conover, in 1862, purchased the farm on which he at present resides, in the same township, and is still engaged in the employment of an agriculturist, devoting special attention to horticulture. Mr. Conover's extensive business interests have not, however, rendered him indifferent to affairs connected with his township. A Democrat in his political predilections, he has held various local offices and been an influential factor in the development of his section of the county. He is a member of the board of direction of the Freehold and Keyport Railroad. His religious views are in accord with the doctrines of the Reformed (Dutch) Church, in which the family for generations have worshiped.

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J. V. N. WILLIS is a son of Ralph Willis and Lucretia A. Van Nuse, the former born in London, England, in 1815, and the latter near New Brunswick, N. J., in 1811. Rev. Ralph received his primary education in London and in Yorkshire, having been a pupil of "Dough-boy Hall." In 1830 he emigrated to this country, whither his father, Edwin Willis, within a few years followed, settling with his remaining family in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Rev. Ralph, after pursuing a preparatory course





of study in Philadelphia and in the grammar school at New Brunswick, in 1835 entered Rutgers College, from which he graduated with reputation in 1849, when he became a member of the Theological Seminary of the same place. At the conclusion of his theological course he was called to the pastorate of the Reformed Church of Bethlehem, N. Y., where his name and usefulness have still honorable mention. Leaving this charge in 1851, he became pastor of the Brick Church, Monmouth County, N. J., where he remained an honored and successful pastor until the spring of 1868, when he assumed, in connection with his official position as county superintendent of public instruction, the care of the Reformed Church of Spotswood, N. J., whose interests, both spiritual and material, he greatly advanced. This reverend gentleman still holds, at this writing, the office of superintendent of instruction, his efficiency and adaptability having secured his reappointment, term after term, for the past seventeen years. In addition to this public service, his old age is honored with the responsible position of rector of the Theological School at New Brunswick, where he resides with his remaining family in circumstances of competence and comfort.

John V. N. Willis was born in Bethlehem, N. Y., August 15, 1843. His primary education was obtained at the Woodhulls' school, Freehold, and, for a time, in Philadelphia. His more advanced studies were under his father's tuition, at Marlborough, N. J. At the age of nineteen he assumed the care of the home farm, preferring the occupation of a farmer to that of any other. After his marriage to an estimable lady, Ann Schanck, he purchased a farm in Atlantic township, which he retained but a short time, disposing of it for the purchase of the Schanck homestead, Marlborough, where he still resides. Here, together with general farming, he devoted much attention to the raising and training of fine horses, owning at one time, among others of note, the famous trotters "Edwin Booth" and "Sensation." In 1876 his attention was diverted from fine horses to fine cattle, making the Jerseys his specialty; being the first to introduce registered Jerseys into this section. This en-

terprise at first was not looked upon with favor by his more cautious neighbors; but with a self-reliance that was always a prominent trait in his character, he persevered. In the spring of 1879 his offering at the Breeders' Combination Sale in New York comprised the two-year-old heifer "Daisy Maid of Bloomfield" and her calf, with some yearlings. Prices at that time did not range so high as at present, yet the cow and calf were sold to Mr. T. A. Havemeyer, of New York, for fifteen hundred dollars, and the yearlings brought prices ranging from three hundred to four hundred dollars each. At the subsequent sales, held in the American Institute Building, his stock has always been much sought after by the prominent breeders of the country, and have always commanded large prices. At the Breeders' Contribution Sale in New York, in May, 1883, Mr. Willis received the second prize, a costly silver cream pitcher, presented by his associate breeders for the second highest average, being \$1224.50 per head. His contribution at the sale was all of young animals, and included the little bull-calf "Koffee's King," only twenty-one days old, which was bred by Mr. Willis, and brought sixteen hundred and fifty dollars, which was within fifty dollars of the highest price ever paid up to that time for a Jersey bull-calf. At a similar sale, in New York, in May, 1884, Mr. Willis contributed fifteen head of young Jerseys, which secured for him the admiration of the visitors and of the press, and their sale aggregated ten thousand three hundred and thirty-five dollars.

Again, at the annual sale in New York, in April of the present year (1885), he carried off the prize offered to the person contributing the five animals selling for the highest price, whether bred by the contributor or not. This much-coveted prize consisted of a beautiful solid silver punch-bowl, mounted on an ebony pedestal, and was valued at one hundred and seventy-five dollars. The average obtained at the sale for five of his cattle was nine hundred and thirty-one dollars per head, which was also the highest average obtained by any participant in the sale. Mr. D. F. Appleton, of New York, in presenting the prize to Mr. Willis, paid a very high compli-





Eng<sup>d</sup> by A. H. Ritchie

John W. Willis





ment to his ability to select and develop the very best animals, and said that his consignments to these sales had always been greatly admired. He has also been a successful prize-winner at local and State fairs, receiving many herd and individual prizes. His stock in the hands of others has also been successful in winning prizes at St. Louis and at other points in the West. He was sent, as an expert in Jersey cattle, by the American Jersey Cattle Club, to test the great cow "Princess II.," who made twenty-seven pound ten ounces of butter in seven days, at that time, the largest yield on record ever made by any cow. He has also acted as judge of live stock at the most prominent exhibitions lately in Baltimore, Rhode Island, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and elsewhere. At the present time Mr. Willis' herd comprises a large number of superior animals of various ages and the most popular and varied strains. He ranks among the first breeders of fine cattle in the country, and as a judge of the merits of young cattle and of their future promise, and as a conditioner, it is conceded that he stands in the front rank. The *Jersey Bulletin*, published at Indianapolis, under date of May 1, 1884, said: "[He] is an extraordinary judge of the possibilities of young stock, and is one of the first managers and handlers in the country." October 29th, it said: "[He] possesses the utmost instinctive power of judging of the probabilities of young calves." December 31st, it said: "[He] has an intuitive knowledge of the capabilities of animals to feed, has had a most thorough education, training and experience in rearing, feeding and the management of cattle, and in tact and talent in this direction is equaled by few."

Mr. Willis is a Democrat in politics, and a popular man in his section, in which his party has been in the ascendancy for many years. He has frequently had public positions tendered to him, but has always declined to accept them. He was appointed by Governor Abbott to represent the Third Congressional District on the board of visitors to the State Agricultural College, his commission bearing date of April 18, 1884. He has also recently been re-elected as a member of the board of managers of the Monmouth County Agricultural So-

ciety, of which society he has been an active and prominent member for a number of years. He is still a young man, and can scarcely be said to have reached the prime of his mental abilities. Should he escape accident and disease, he has a bright future before him, and the kindest regards of his friends and associates will accompany him in his career.

**DANIEL P. VAN DORN.**—The Van Dorn family are of Holland descent, the progenitor of the family in New Jersey having been Jacobus Van Dorn, a native of Holland, who settled on Long Island, from whence he removed to Monmouth County in 1698, purchasing six hundred and seventy-six acres of land in Marlborough township. At the organization of the First Church of Freehold, in 1709, Jacobus Van Dorn was one of the two members appointed to fill the office of deacon.

The northwest corner of the land above referred to is now in possession of the subject of this biographical sketch, having come to him by inheritance through an unbroken line of ancestors, embracing a period of more than one hundred and eighty years. In the direct line of descent from Jacobus, who married Maritje Bennet, a lady of large wealth, was Peter Van Dorn, born July 4, 1755, on the ancestral land in the present township of Marlborough, where he followed the occupations of a farmer. He married Jane Williamson, whose birth occurred July 5, 1758. Their children were Mary, Jacob, Elbert, Williampe, Anne, John, William, Isaac, Peter, Jannetje, and Sarah. William, of this number, was born March 2, 1790, and married, November 28, 1815, Catherine, daughter of Daniel Polhemus, of the present Atlantic township, a soldier of the Revolution, who was confined in the famous Sugar-House Prison, in New York. To this marriage were born four children,—Catherine, Jane, Daniel P. and Mary,—of whom Jane, born January 14, 1819, married, March 10, 1842, John Rue Perrine, of Manalapan, whose only daughter is Catherine Polhemus Perrine. Mrs. Perrine's death occurred August 28, 1877.

Daniel P. Van Dorn was born October 7, 1820, on the homestead still occupied by him,



which has been his life-time residence. He was educated at Matawan, in his native county, and later at Lenox, Mass., after which, on his return, he assisted in the routine of labor connected with the farm until the death of his father, when he received as his patrimony a portion of the land, and acquired the remainder by purchase. He has since that time been devoted to the varied labors of an agriculturist. Mr. Van Dorn was, on the 9th of Sep-

the State Legislature in 1854, serving during the session on various important committees, including that on banks and banking. He has also acted as chosen freeholder and filled other township offices. Mr. Van Dorn was educated in the faith of the Reformed (Dutch) Church, to which he still adheres.

OBADIAH C. HERBERT.—The ancestry of the Herbert family having been already given



*D. P. Van Dorn*

tember, 1874, married to Anna J. Roche, of North Hadley, Mass. Their only child is a son, William, born on the 20th of August, 1875. Mr. Van Dorn has been identified with many of the most important interests of the county. He was one of the early projectors and is still a director of the Freehold and New York Railroad. He is also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. His political principles have always been those of the Democratic party, which he represented in

elsewhere in this volume renders repetition here unnecessary. The subject of this biographical sketch is the son of Conover Herbert, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Major David Provost, of Monmouth County. The children of this marriage are Obadiah; Cornelia, wife of William H. Heyer; David P., deceased; Eleanor G., deceased; Mary Louisa; William H., deceased; John W., deceased; Evelina E., deceased; and William C., married to Louisa Applegate. Obadiah C. was born on the 12th





of October, 1834, at Matawan, Monmouth County, where he remained until his twelfth year, subsequently residing for four years with his uncle, Judge J. W. Herbert, in Marlborough township. His education was received in Marlborough and at Matawan, and later at the Madison University, at Hamilton, N. Y., from whence he was called home by the illness of his father, whose death occurred in 1858. He assumed direction of the farm, and in 1859 became, by inheritance and purchase, the owner of the paternal home, which is his present residence. He was, in 1857, married to Mary A., daughter of John Buek, of Freehold, their children being Ralph Willis, a practicing physician at Manasquan; Dora E., wife of Dr. Charles N. Cox; Frank C.; George B.; Evan M.; Carrie O.; and Harvey C., deceased. Mr. Herbert has, since his marriage, been engaged in farming, though various business interests requiring close attention have influenced him to place the cultivation and improvement of his lands in the hands of his sons. On his farm are extensive and valuable marl-pits, which have brought their owner into prominent notice as the most extensive dealer in this remarkable fertilizing product in the State. (A comprehensive description of the marl-beds of the county will be found in the chapter on the geological formation of the county.) The whole of Mr. Herbert's farm is underlaid with marl, about twelve acres of which have thus far been profitably worked, the supply being practically unlimited. The market is chiefly found in adjacent portions of the State, the Freehold and New York Railroad, which runs over the land, affording superior facilities for shipment. Mr. Herbert was the projector and has been the leading spirit in the development of Marlborough, the village in which he resides. He purchased the ground, which was laid out in lots, buildings erected, and manifested a spirit of energy and determination which insured its rapid development and growth. He still continues these improvements, and has recently devoted much attention to real estate operations and the purchase and sale of property in this and other localities. Mr. Herbert is a member, and was formerly an officer, of the Monmouth County

Agricultural Society. He is a Republican in politics, and although at times the incumbent of various township offices, has frequently declined such honors. He has, however, been more largely identified with religious work, and was an active member of the building committee in the erection of the edifice of the First Baptist Church of Marlborough, of which he is both deacon and trustee, and has been, since its organization, superintendent of the Sabbath-school.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### OCEAN TOWNSHIP AND LONG BRANCH.

THE township of Ocean was erected from a part of Shrewsbury by an act passed February 24, 1849, dividing the said township of Shrewsbury into two townships, by a line "beginning at the mouth of Shrewsbury South river, and running up said river to Eatontown Landing Creek, to the east line of Jacob White's land; thence northerly, along the line of land between Jacob White and Peter Castler, to Parker's Creek; thence up said creek to the Eatontown mill-brook; thence up said brook to said mill; thence up the pond to a point where line south ten degrees west will strike the road west of Asel Spinning's; thence on a straight line to the road leading from Eatontown to Shark River, where said road crosses Cranberry Brook; thence along said road, as it runs across Jumping Brook, to the northwest corner of Skullthorp's farm; thence on a straight line running west of the school-house, near John P. L. Tilton's, to the Howell line. The northwesterly part to be called the township of Shrewsbury, and the southeasterly part to be called the township of Ocean."

In 1867 the Legislature of New Jersey passed an act declaring "That the township of Ocean, in the county of Monmouth, shall be hereby divided into two townships, by a line running as follows, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of Peter Reynolds' mill-brook, where it empties into Shark River, and running up said brook to said mill; thence a straight line



northeasterly to the southwest corner of Elisha J. Morrison's farm by a bridge over a stream which empties into Great Pond; thence down the said stream to the aforesaid pond, and around the same to the north side thereof, to the southeast corner of Jeremiah White's farm, being also the southwest corner of the farm of Garret Vanderveer; thence along the line of said White and Vanderveer due north to the Deal road, leading from thence to the Eatontown and Long Branch turnpike road, by Elisha Lippincott's store; thence along said Deal road to a cross-road at the foot of Negro Hill, near the Methodist Episcopal Church, leading to Lane & Corlies' store; thence along the middle of said cross-road to a stone planted for the northwest corner of John Lever's farm, being also the northeast corner of the farm of the late James T. Woolley, deceased; thence north nine degrees east to the Turtle mill-brook; thence down the said brook and creek to the southeast corner of George Hance's farm; thence along the east line of said farm to the northeast corner thereof, being a corner of lands belonging to William Morris; thence north thirty-five and a half degrees west to South Shrewsbury River, being the Shrewsbury Township line. The easterly part to be called the township of Ocean, and the westerly part the township of Lincoln." This act was repealed in the following year, thus obliterating Lincoln township from the map of Monmouth County, and leaving Ocean township with boundaries the same as before the passage of the act dividing it.

Ocean township was reduced to its present limits by the erection of Eatontown township, in 1873, and Neptune township, in 1879. The descriptions of the territory taken from Ocean to form these townships are given in their respective histories. The present boundaries of Ocean township (including Long Branch) are,—on the north, Middletown,<sup>1</sup> Shrewsbury River and Eatontown; east, by the Atlantic Ocean; south, by Neptune township; west, by Shrewsbury River and Eatontown and Shrewsbury townships. The only stream of importance in Ocean township is Shrewsbury River. The

railways of the township are the sea-shore line, which runs from Sandy Hook southward along the entire ocean-front of the county, the New York and Long Branch Railroad and the Eatontown Branch of the New Jersey Southern Railroad, which connect with the sea-shore line at Long Branch. By the United States census returns of 1880 the population of Ocean township (including Long Branch village) is given as six thousand and twenty-seven, of which the population of Long Branch was three thousand eight hundred and thirty-three.

Following is a list of chosen freeholders of Ocean township from its erection to the present time, viz.:

1849-50. Henry Wolcott, Jr.

1849. Henry Howland.

1850. Isaiah S. Lane.

1851-56. Henry Howland.

1857-62. Jordan Wooley.

1863-64. Edward Wardell.

1865-68. Joseph H. Cooper.

1869-72. William H. Bennet.

1873-74. Joseph H. Cooper.

1875-78. James W. Conover.

1879-82. Thomas R. Wooley.

1883-84. John A. Eaton.

## LONG BRANCH.

Long Branch, the most famed sea-side resort in America, if not in the world, lies on the eastern border of Ocean township and on the shore of the sea. It comes down by tradition that the first name given by white men to this locality was "Land's End;" but this is of very doubtful authenticity, and it is far more likely that that designation, if applied at all in this region, was given to Sandy Hook. The present name, which is known to have been in use for more than a century, was derived from the "long branch" of South Shrewsbury River, which here flows in a northwardly course, and is only a little distance back from the sea.

In the list of associate patentees of Monmouth are found the names of John Slocum, Joseph and Peter Parker and Eliakim Wardell. These men all came to Monmouth County, and in May, 1668, subscribed, with other "freeholders," to

<sup>1</sup> By Middletown, on the neck of land that extends north to Sandy Hook.





the oath of allegiance, the heading of which is,—  
“The names of the inhabitants of Middleton upon Nauesink that doe subscribe to the oath of Aleagance to the King and Fidelitie to the Lords Proprietors.”

John Slocum received from the proprietors a grant of land lying in Shrewsbury township (now Ocean). In the early times, and before the Indian title was extinguished, it was necessary to buy their rights as well as to patent from the proprietors. An amusing tradition is related by Judge William H. Slocum, of Ocean Port, as to the manner in which his ancestor, John Slocum, secured the Indian title to his land, viz.: It was arranged between him and the savages that he should engage in a wrestling contest with an Indian, who was selected by them for his strength and skill as a wrestler, the stake to be a certain amount of land which was agreed upon, and which Slocum was to have as a gift if victorious in the contest. He was of large size and very athletic. “Great preparations were made to witness the encounter. The chosen Indian wrestler practiced continually for the event. The day long expected proved cloudless and auspicious. The spot chosen was the present Fish Landing. A circle was formed, and the Indian champion, elated, confident and greased from head to foot, appeared. Slocum advanced coolly, and the struggle began; it was long and doubtful. Finally Slocum threw his antagonist, but in an instant the Indian was again on his feet. A murmur ran through the circle. Again the Indian made a violent effort and both fell. Another murmur was heard. Silence prevailed as they came together again, broken only by the roaring of the surf. A long struggle. Slocum inured to toil, hardy and rugged, proved too much for the Indian, and threw him, to the intense disappointment of the Indians and undisguised joy of the whites. The terms were then all arranged. John Slocum had two brothers, and they located that part of Long Branch reaching from the shore to Turtle Mill Brook, embracing all lands lying north of the main road, from the sea to Eatontown, between these two points, to the south of Shrewsbury, except Fresh Pond and Snag Swamp, which

was located by one of the Wardell family. A considerable portion of these lands continued in the possession of the Slocums until thirty or forty years ago. All are now gone into other hands.”

If this be true, it shows the way in which John Slocum secured the Indian title to the lands he purchased in 1670. It is stated that Slocum, Wardell, Parker and Hulett were to have the land resulting from the contest, and Slocum was selected as the strongest of the four men to meet the Indian; but this is not true, as the records show that in 1670, Eliakim Wardell bought the Indian rights for four pounds.

In 1683 John Slocum was foreman of the grand jury, chief ranger of Monmouth County and one of the commissioners for laying out roads. In 1688 a road was laid out “from the King’s Highway that crosseth the brook, the bounds betwixt John Slocum and his brother Nathaniel,” past Thomas Hulett and Henry Chamberlain to Whale Pond Brook, past Thomas Eaton’s and Samuel White’s to Horse Pound, by his “little water pond” and through “Deale.”

In December, 1683, John Slocum was appointed captain of the State militia, and January 14, 1692, he was appointed to assist the surveyor-general to lay out lands in Shrewsbury township. Besides the lands he purchased in 1670, he came into possession of other lands from his father, Giles Slocum, of Newport, R. I. This tract belonged to Robert Carr, who was one of the original patentees, but did not settle here, and sold the land to Giles Slocum, the deeds for which are dated in 1676.

The land John Slocum received from his father is supposed to have been in what is now Shrewsbury, on Narumsen or “Rumson.” John Slocum evidently came to Shrewsbury (now Long Branch), as he received a grant of “three hundred and seventy-two acres of land within the bounds of Shrewsbury, being in two parcels,” for which he was to pay a quit-rent of a half-penny per acre, the first payment of which was to begin March 25, 1670. The land he settled upon was north of the main road leading to the sea, including Slocum’s Island. Peter Parker and Eliakim War-

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dell came with John Slocum. He (Slocum) married Meribah Parker, a cousin of Peter Parker, who received a portion of land by his will.

John Slocum made his will April 6, 1698, which was proved February 2, 1702. His wife, Meribah, was appointed executrix. He left no children, and the property mainly passed to John Slocum, a son of his brother Nathaniel, and to Peter Parker and Patience Tucker, both of whom were his cousins.

Nathaniel Slocum, the brother of John Slocum, was here before 1688, as is shown by the road record, and was then in possession of land on the road from John West's line to Turtle Mill Brook, and on the south side of the road he owned considerable land now in old Long Branch village.

Peter Parker was in this section of country between 1665 and 1670, but where he settled first, is not known. The land left to him by his cousin, John Slocum, is supposed to have been his residence after that time, as it was in the family until 1824. How many sons he had is not known, but his son Peter settled on the homestead, the site of which is now occupied by the new residence of Thomas W. Cooper. He had three sons,—John, William and Peter. John is said to have been drowned in the bay; William moved to Rumson's Neck, where he was known as "Boatman Billy," to distinguish him from "Rich Billy," the descendant of Joseph Parker, who settled at Narumsunk. Peter settled on the homestead, and carried on a small business with a sloop. He died in 1793 and left four sons,—John, Joseph, Benjamin and Robert. John purchased a farm partly on Pleasure Bay and down to Branchport, embracing what was known as the Sheep-Pen Landing. Benjamin was a merchant in Eatontown from 1796 to 1809. The homestead farm was divided between Robert and Joseph, who lived upon their places until their deaths. In 1854 the heirs sold the property. The farm of Robert was bought by Samuel Cooper for twenty thousand dollars, and the farm of Joseph was purchased by N. W. Troutman. Peter Parker, of Long Branch, now ninety-one years of age, is a son of Joseph

It has often been stated that the property at Long Branch on which Green's Bath Hotel formerly stood was owned prior to and in the Revolution by Captain White, of New York, who was a British officer. There is nothing to confirm this statement, and the story grew out of the capture and death of Philip White, an account of which will be found in the general history. From other sources it is ascertained that the property was in possession of Ebenezer Wardell, one of the descendants of Eliakim Wardell, and who sympathized with the British. It was the residence of Ebenezer Wardell that was first used as a boarding-place at Long Branch. Watson, in his "Annals," says:

"In consequence of the war the place was confiscated. The house was first used as a boarding-house by Elliston Perot, of Philadelphia, in 1788. At that time the whole premises were in charge of one old woman, left to keep the place from injury. Of her, Mr. Perot begged an asylum for himself and family, which was granted, provided he could get beds and bedding from others. Being pleased with the place, he repeated his visit there three successive years, taking some friends with him."

In the winter of 1790-91, Lewis McKnight, of Monmouth County, purchased the property, consisting of one hundred acres, for seven hundred pounds, with the intention of making it a resort. He persuaded Mr. Perot and others to loan him money to improve it, which was done, and families from Philadelphia came there to spend a portion of their summers at "the Branch."

This property was sold in 1820 to William Renshaw for thirteen thousand dollars, who built an addition to the house and continued it for boarders.<sup>1</sup> He lived a few years and died before 1832. His widow continued the house until July, 1837, when she failed, and the property passed to James Green, who opened the Bath Hotel, which was much enlarged and was

<sup>1</sup>On the 4th of March, 1828, a company was formed, consisting of Thaddeus Whitlock, Alexander McGregor and John P. Lewis, for the purpose of establishing a line of steamboats "for the better maintaining and conducting of the Bath Buildings Establishment at Long Branch."

This was the first attempt of steamboats to run to Long Branch.





destroyed by fire April 4, 1867, at a loss of one hundred thousand dollars. The site is now occupied by cottages, and the Hotel Scarborough opposite stands on the site of the stables.

In 1792, Herbert & Chandler were conducting a hotel at Long Branch, and in May, 1793, they advertised in Dunlap's *American Advertiser*, published at that time in Philadelphia, as follows:

"The subscribers beg leave to acquaint the public in general, and their friends in particular, that they continue in the same line of business in the house they occupied last year at the sea-shore in Shrewsbury, and have provided themselves with good waiters and laid in a good stock of liquors and everything necessary for the entertainment of ladies and gentlemen, and have provided large and commodious stables. They have also erected houses under the bank for the convenience of bathing, and will omit nothing to render the entertainment of those that may please to favor them with their custom in every respect agreeable.

"HERBERT & CHANDLER.

"Long Branch, May 19, 1792."

In 1806 the property was owned by Chandler & Brinley, who sold that year to Joshua Bennet, who enlarged it sufficiently to accommodate two hundred and fifty guests. He conducted it until the spring of 1815, when he became embarrassed financially, and it was sold by the sheriff to a man from Freehold and three days later it was destroyed by fire. It stood on a bluff two hundred yards seaward from the Hotel Brighton. The land has since been washed away, and the site is now covered by the waters of the ocean.

In 1816, Joseph Wardell, of Rumson, purchased a property at Fish Landing, also known later as Peggy's Point, on which his son Richard settled and built a tavern. He died a few years later, and his widow, Margaret Wardell (better known as Aunt Peggy), kept it until about 1860, when it was sold to John Chasey, who afterwards traded it to Hugh Manahan, who erected on the site the large house called the "American," later known as the "Clarendon," and now as the "Ocean Wave." The south part of the lot was purchased by Helmbold, the druggist, about 1870.

Long Branch as it was in 1819 is described in Niles' *Register*, of that year, as follows:

"The company at this salubrious retreat is represented to be very numerous and respectable this season. The New York *Advocate* says there is a kind of military or naval regulation there which strangers often contravene from ignorance: that is, when the stipulated time for ladies' bathing arrives, a white flag is hoisted on the bank, when it is high treason for a gentleman to be seen there; and when the established time for gentlemen arrives, the red flag is run up, which is sometimes done by mistake and produces rather ludicrous misunderstandings. A wag lately hoisted both flags together, which created some awful squinting and no little confusion."

Obadiah Scars built next after Bennett, and continued until March, 1843, when his widow sold the property. The site is now occupied by Howland's Hotel.

In 1831, Samuel Cooper, Job West, George W. West, Major Henry Wardell and John Wells purchased the greater part of what was known as the Dr. Elisha Perkins farm, and divided it. Samuel Cooper's part of the land was about thirty acres, on which he erected a two and a half story building, with accommodations for seventy boarders. The house was conducted by him for many years. On July 11, 1844, the following advertisement was inserted in the *Monmouth Democrat*:

#### "SEA-BATHING AT LONG BRANCH.

"SAMUEL COOPER

Begs leave to inform the public generally that he has built two bathing-houses purposely to accommodate Country people who wish to bathe and dine at his house during the hot weather.

"Price for dinner, 50 cents. Good stabling and feed for horses.

"SAMUEL COOPER.

"L. S. SUTPHIN, Agent."

The site of this house is now occupied by Leland's Ocean Hotel. In front of this hotel is the iron pier, which was finished in July, 1879. It extends out into the ocean six hundred feet. The large pavilion contains promenades, restaurants and balconies, while below it are over six hundred bathing-rooms. The steamer "Magenta" began regular trips from the pier to New York, June 15, 1879.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 mentions Long Branch as "a mill-stream and tributary of Shrewsbury River. There is a small village of twelve or fifteen houses, one tavern and two

No.	Name	Age
1	John Smith	25
2	James Brown	30
3	William Jones	28
4	Robert Taylor	35
5	Thomas White	22
6	Charles Black	32
7	David Green	27
8	Richard King	38
9	Henry Hill	24
10	Samuel Adams	33
11	Benjamin Franklin	29
12	George Washington	31
13	John Hancock	26
14	Thomas Jefferson	34
15	James Madison	23
16	Andrew Jackson	36
17	Martin Luther King	21
18	Barack Obama	37
19	Michelle Obama	39
20	Donald Trump	70
21	Joe Biden	77
22	Elizabeth Warren	70
23	Cory Booker	43
24	Ilhan Omar	39
25	Janet Mock	34
26	Sherry Coltrane	32
27	Janet Mock	34
28	Sherry Coltrane	32
29	Janet Mock	34
30	Sherry Coltrane	32
31	Janet Mock	34
32	Sherry Coltrane	32
33	Janet Mock	34
34	Sherry Coltrane	32
35	Janet Mock	34
36	Sherry Coltrane	32
37	Janet Mock	34
38	Sherry Coltrane	32
39	Janet Mock	34
40	Sherry Coltrane	32
41	Janet Mock	34
42	Sherry Coltrane	32
43	Janet Mock	34
44	Sherry Coltrane	32
45	Janet Mock	34
46	Sherry Coltrane	32
47	Janet Mock	34
48	Sherry Coltrane	32
49	Janet Mock	34
50	Sherry Coltrane	32

stores east of this stream, and between it and the Atlantic, to which the name of Long Branch is given, a well-known and much frequented sea-bathing place on the Atlantic Ocean, which has its name from the stream and hamlet above mentioned. The inducements to the invalid, the idle and the hunters of pleasure to spend a portion of the hot season here are many. Good accommodations, obliging hosts, a clean and high shore, with a gently-shelving beach, a fine prospect seaward enlivened by the countless vessels passing to and from New York, excellent fishing on the banks, three or four miles at sea, good gunning, and the great attraction of all watering-places, much and fashionable company. During the season a regular line of stages runs from Philadelphia and a steamboat from New York to the boarding-houses here, of which there are several; Wardell's, Renshaw's and Sears' are the most frequented. Many respectable farmers also receive boarders, who, in the quiet of rural life, enjoy in comfort and ease their season of relaxation, perhaps more fully than those in the public hotels. Along the beach at Long Branch is a strip of fertile black sand several miles in length and exceeding more than a mile in width. The land adjacent to the ocean rises perpendicularly from the beach nearly twenty feet. The boarding-houses are twenty rods from the water, with lawns in the intermediate space."

The following notes, referring to Long Branch watering-place, are from the diary of William R. Maps, from July 5, 1835, to August 25, 1843, and show the fluctuations of the summer business at that period:

"July 5, 1835.—Visitors from the city are plenty in the neighborhood,—boarding-houses filled.

"July 1, 1836.—Not over twenty boarders on the coast.

"July 15, 1837.—Boarders scarce on the shore; Mrs. Renshaw has no guests. July 31st.—Boarders still scarce on the shore,—houses averaging only about thirty each; proprietors discouraged. August 12th.—But few boarders out yet.

"June 11, 1838.—Not many boarders on the shore, but prospect of a good season. July 9th.—The boarders begin to come out. July 16th.—Boarders plenty. July 25th.—More boarders on the shore than for many years past. August 26th.—The summer has

been the warmest, dryest and best season for boarders ever known.

"July 13, 1839.—But few boarders at the shore. July 28th.—Boarding-houses just filled up. August 1st.—Mrs. Renshaw, a boarding-house keeper, failed.

"July 30, 1840.—Boarding-houses well filled.

"July 16, 1841.—Boarders very scarce on the shore. July 31st.—Boarders quite plenty at this date.

"July 19, 1842.—Boarding-houses about half-filled. July 31st.—Cleared up cold this afternoon. August 1st.—Boarders frightened by the cold. August 15th.—Warm weather, but few boarders.

"August 4, 1843.—Boarding-houses at the Branch well filled. August 14th.—Boarding-houses filled to overflowing. August 25th.—Mr. Montgomery, a guest at Green's, drowned."

Long Branch, in 1840, was described by ex-Senator Stockton (in a paper dated August 10, 1882), as follows:

"I wonder how many people who now visit Long Branch realize the change that forty years have brought. My first sight of the sea was from these bluffs in 1840. My brother and I had driven down from Princeton, stopping on the way at Colt's Neck, where my father had a racing-stable, and where 'Fashion' was trained. Then one little steamer made the trip from New York, rounding the Hook and making her way into the Shrewsbury through an inlet at Seabright, almost at the spot where the Octagon Hotel now stands. The water rushed through it as in a mill-race, and the passage through was an event of the day. From the little dock inside, stages, with the tires of their wheels eight inches broad, toiled slowly along the sands to a farm, the borders of which is now Monmouth Beach, and thence to the upper end of Long Branch and to a low tavern known as the Fish House, at about the point where the telegraph-office now is. The foundations of this office are now almost washed by the sea. The Fish House was then several hundred yards from the beach. There were but two other hotels,—the Bath-House, about half-way between the present West End and Ocean, and the Conover House, still standing and occupied by the musicians employed in the West End Hotel. There was a bowling-alley on the beach, opposite the Bath-House, the site of which is now three hundred yards out in the ocean. Then all who came here drove from Philadelphia or Trenton or Princeton in their own carriages; few came from New York. The fare was plain. Great dishes of boiled hard-shell crabs and lobsters were on every table. There were beef, mutton and vegetables from New Jersey farms, and rich cream and milk, and in the kitchen were colored cooks from the South. People came here for their health, and after supper every one went to the beach and there stayed until ten or eleven o'clock, unless a couple of





fiddlers enticed the young people to a dance in the parlors. Every one bathed in the sea. A white flag gave notice that it was ladies' hour, and no man, except a husband, then ventured to the beach. When the red flag was up the men crowded the surf, and there was no pretence of bathing-suits. The hotels were then so far back that the bluff concealed the bathers. Now, what with French dishes in the dining-room, a pretentious band in the parlor and the desire for display in dress and carriages, Long Branch is hardly any longer a place sought for health, but rather only for the opportunity it gives to exhibit new costumes and the ability to spend money."

The Monmouth House was built about 1848, and Abner H. Reed was the first proprietor. It was afterwards owned by Enoch Hendrickson, and last by Austin James. The encroachments of the sea made it necessary to move it inland. The site is now in the sea and nearly half a mile out from the Shelbourne. Cornelius Lane built a house afterwards known as the Lawn, near Stetson House, now West End.

The Mansion House was built in 1846 by Jacob W. Morris, who, in 1856, sold it to Samuel Laird, under whom it was enlarged from time to time, until it became one of the leading hotels of the place. Upon the death of Mr. Laird, in 1872, it was purchased by Mr. McIntyre and William M. Gowtry, who are the present owners of the property. The Mansion House was partially destroyed by fire on the night of December 19, 1884. Loss, sixty thousand dollars.

In 1852 the Parker farms were owned by the heirs of Robert and Joseph Parker. Samuel Cooper purchased the Robert Parker farm, on which stood the old Parker homestead, the site of which is now occupied by the new residence of Thomas W. Cooper. On this farm Samuel Cooper, in 1853, began the erection of the Metropolitan Hotel, which was blown down twice before it was completed. It was opened for the season of 1854 by Joseph H. Cooper and Michael M. Vandyke. Afterwards it was sold to Dr. Arthur V. Conover, of Freehold. It was burned April 25, 1876, and rebuilt soon after as the Hotel Brighton, which is its present name.

The Allegheny House, once the residence of Dr. Elisha Perkins, was in 1846 fitted up with a hundred rooms and occupied as a hotel until its destruction by fire, in 1866. Since that time

the erection of buildings and changes of names have been so numerous that it is impracticable to follow them. In 1860 the hotels on the shore had accommodations for four thousand one hundred and twenty-five persons, with a number of smaller hotels and boarding-houses besides.

Recently the idea has been entertained that Long Branch may be made an attractive and healthful resort for winter, as well as in the summer season. It is claimed that the temperature here in winter averages from five to ten degrees warmer than in New York or Philadelphia. The weather here until February is usually very pleasant. In December it is mostly dry and braeing, while in January the light snows are quickly melted by the sea air. It is not until March arrives, with its heavy, cold northwesterly gales, that the weather is unpleasant. As to the healthfulness of the place there can be no question. The sea air is, of course, invigorating, and the land breezes come from dense pine-forests which lie back of the Branch. The experiment of a fashionable winter resort at this place has now (December, 1884) been inaugurated by Mr. John Hoey, who has latterly made Long Branch his home the year around, and is well satisfied that it can be successfully established as a winter resort, and for this purpose he has now opened the largest four of the elegant cottages (more properly, *mansions*), which he has erected from time to time, opposite his own home, on Cedar Avenue. These houses have been especially fitted and prepared for the object in view. Mr. Hoey's grounds, with their capacious green-houses, filled with roses, palms, orchids and other plants, will be open to the visitors. The New York and Long Branch Railroad will run fast trains, stopping at Hollywood Station, within two minutes' walk of the cottages. Thus visitors can reach New York and return with ease. Mr. Hoey takes great interest in his new idea, and believes that in a short time a great many people may find as much benefit from a residence at Long Branch in winter as in summer.

The old village of Long Branch is situated more than a mile inland from the beach at the great watering-place of the same name. It has

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters. The text suggests that organizations should implement robust systems to track every aspect of their operations, from procurement to sales.

2. In the second section, the author addresses the challenges of data management in a rapidly changing environment. It highlights the need for flexible and scalable solutions that can adapt to new technologies and evolving business requirements. The text also touches upon the importance of data security and privacy, noting that organizations must take appropriate measures to protect sensitive information from unauthorized access or loss.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in enhancing operational efficiency. It explores various digital tools and platforms that can streamline processes, reduce errors, and improve overall productivity. The author argues that embracing technology is not just a choice but a necessity for organizations looking to stay competitive in the modern market.

4. The final section discusses the importance of continuous learning and development for the workforce. It suggests that organizations should invest in training and development programs to equip their employees with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in a dynamic environment. The text also mentions the importance of fostering a culture of innovation and collaboration, where employees are encouraged to share ideas and work together to solve problems.

been known as a village for more than seventy years, and there was a settlement here, years before the Revolution.

The first store at or near the present village was built by Michael Maps and Richard Wyckoff in 1812, at what is now known as Lippincott's Corner, and on the site of the house occupied by Miss Harriet Lippincott. The firm did business there until 1815, when they were succeeded by Elisha Lippincott, who continued there until 1870. At the close of the War of 1812-15, Jacob Croxson erected a building on the east part of the present site of Van Wart's Hotel, and Thomas Chandler opened a store, which he kept for many years. In 1830, William W. Croxson, son of Jacob, opened a store in the building and kept it until 1842. In this store Mr. Croxson kept the post-office from 1834 till he sold out.

Elisha West built a small tavern about 1845, and opened a hotel, which was enlarged at different times, and which he kept until 1868, when Jacob Van Wart, the present proprietor, purchased it. Alexander McGregor, who settled at Mechanicsburg (now Branchburg) in 1809, and opened a store at the place in 1826, built a store building at what was known as the "Liberty Pole" (now Long Branch village), and put his nephew in charge. William R. Maps was a clerk in the store. The nephew not conducting the business properly, Mr. Maps was placed in charge, and in 1829 purchased the business and continued there many years. The store was on the site of the post-office block, just west of Mr. Maps' present residence.

In 1835, John A. Morford began a store where Curtis, the latter, now is, and continued till 1874. The firm was Wardell & Morford, which was changed, in 1859, to John A. Morford & Son; in 1872, to Morford, Van Derveer & Co.; in 1874, to J. A. Morford & Van Derveer; and in 1883, to Morford, Brown & Co. The present brick building was erected in 1874-75, across the street from the old store, and T. Con. Morford has taken the place of his father,—making a continuous business firm for nearly fifty years. William R. Maps, who began business as a clerk in 1826, is still in active business as a member of the firm of

Maps, Sloeum & Stokes, and is also president of the Long Branch Banking Company.

In 1838 the first Fourth of July celebration was held at Long Branch village, with the following order of exercises:

Salute of thirteen guns at sunrise fired from the hill adjoining Lewis Taber's.

At six o'clock A.M., procession formed in Peter Sloeum's woods, in rear of where Saint Luke's Church now stands.

At ten o'clock A.M., procession moved by way of Elisha Lippincott's store, which stood on the corner where Miss Harriet Lippincott, his daughter, now resides, to the church (Branchburg), where an address was delivered by Rev. James H. Dandy, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Reading of declaration and an oration, by William H. Sloeum, after which the procession returned to the Liberty Pole by the way of Samuel Corlies to the boarding-house of Samuel Cooper (where the Ocean Hotel now stands), where dinner was served at four o'clock. The celebration was concluded with fire-works in the evening. Samuel B. Brittan was marshal of the day. The first division of the procession was commanded by Captain James Green, and escorted by the company called the Sea Rangers, commanded by Captain Joline. The second division (citizens) was under command of Captain John A. Morford.

NORTH LONG BRANCH (formerly Atlanticville) lies on the sea-shore and on the extreme northern limit of Long Branch corporation, of which it forms a part. It contains a few houses and business places. A two-story frame school-house was built at a cost of five thousand dollars, and was opened in December, 1873.

The sea-shore line of the New Jersey Southern Railroad passes through the village, and a station is located at the place. The Atlanticville Hotel has been open here for several years.

Elberon is a southern suburb of Long Branch, and is so closely identified with the latter that it should be mentioned in that connection, though it is not within the corporation limits. The ground forming the site of this place was owned by Benjamin Wooley, from whom a lot of one hundred





acres was purchased by Lewis A. Brown, who laid it out in lots and streets, and commenced the improvements which have made Elberon what it is,—a most attractive and fashionable summer resort, and a place of elegant residences, of which the most famous is the Francklyn Cottage, to which the mortally-wounded President Garfield was carried from the Executive Mansion, and in which he died.

The Elberon Casino was incorporated in 1882 with a capital of fifty thousand dollars and with the following-named corporators: H. Victor Newcomb, George R. Blanchard, John Sloane, James A. Garland, Horace Porter, Amos Cotting, Granville T. Hawes and Richard Talbot. The company was authorized to commence operations January 1, 1883, the object of its incorporation being "to improve, beautify and develop the lands, . . . to erect buildings for public gatherings and club purposes." The principal improvement made by the company is the erection and opening of the Elberon, which is one of the most elegant and perfectly furnished and appointed hotels on the sea-shore. In this hotel is located the Elberon post-office, established in 1881.

The Long Branch Sanitary and Improvement Commission was incorporated by an act of the Legislature approved April 11, 1867, which provides for and requires the appointment annually, by a justice of the Supreme Court, of three commissioners, to be styled "The Long Branch Commissioners," and

"That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall have power to establish ordinances and regulations for the following purposes, to wit: To prevent vice and immorality; to preserve the public peace and order; to prevent, quell riots, disturbances, disorderly assemblages; to lay out, regulate and improve roads and water the same, and to remove encroachments thereon; to lay out, regulate and improve parks and public grounds, with consent of the land-owners; to prevent indecent exposures, and to improve the sanitary condition of the place, and may carry said ordinances and regulations into effect, and may enforce them by penalties not exceeding one hundred dollars for each violation thereof, which may be recovered by action of debt by said commissioners, by their official name and title aforesaid, before any competent tribunal having jurisdiction of the amount of such penalty, for money due and owing, generally

giving the special matters in evidence, and execution may be awarded according to law, on judgments rendered under this act for the penalty and costs."

The territory composing the jurisdiction of the Long Branch Commission is described in the act "That portion of the county of Monmouth bounded north by the road running from Branchport to Atlanticville, south by Thompson's Pond, east by the Atlantic Ocean, and westerly by a line running parallel with the coast and one-third of a mile west from high-water mark."

A supplement to this act was passed April 3, 1868, which appointed as commissioners Lewis B. Brown, Samuel Laird, Francis Corlies, Jacob Herbert and Cornelius Vanderveer, and described the limits to be as follows:

"Beginning in the middle of the road leading from Branchport to the sea, at the intersection of the Long Branch and Sea-Shore Railroad; thence, running westerly along said road to Branchport, to the middle of the road leading in front of Cornelius Vanderveer's to the Eatontown and Sea-Shore turnpike; thence along the same to the said Eatontown and Sea-Shore turnpike; thence along the same westwardly to the northwest corner of lands late belonging to John W. Slocum, deceased; thence along the line thereof southerly to the northeast corner of Henry H. Wardell's farm, in the line of lands of Joseph Poole; thence along the line of said Poole's land westward and southerly to the road from Long Branch village to the Bath Hotel; thence westerly along the same to the road leading out of said last-mentioned road to Lane & Corlies' store; thence along the same to the Long Branch and Deal turnpike; thence southerly along said turnpike to the southwest corner of a tract of land purchased by Lewis B. Brown of Amzi McLean and others; thence along the southerly line of said tract of land to the ocean at low-water mark; thence along the ocean at low-water mark northerly to a point due east and opposite to a certain monument on the line of the said Long Branch and Sea-Shore Railroad; thence southerly along the middle of said railroad to the beginning, the last course from said monument to said point of beginning being seven hundred and seventy-five yards, more or less."

A supplement to the original act, passed in 1872, provided for an addition of territory to the commission, as embraced in the following described limits:

"Beginning in the road leading in front of Cornelius Vanderveer's to the Eatontown and Sea-Shore turnpike, at the intersection of the same by the New



Jersey Southern Railroad; thence running southerly along said road or avenue to said turnpike; thence along the same westwardly to the northwest corner of lands late belonging to John W. Slocum, deceased; thence along the line thereof southerly to the northeast corner of Henry H. Wardell's farm, in the line of lands of Joseph Poole; thence along the line of said Poole's land westward and southerly to the road from Long Branch village to the Bath Hotel; thence westerly along the same to the road leading out of said last-mentioned road to Lane & Corlies' store; thence along the same to the Long Branch and Deal turnpike; thence northerly along said last-named turnpike to the road leading from Lane & Corlies' store to Mechanicsville; thence along the same to southwesterly corner of lands of Samuel Corlies; thence with the westerly line of said Corlies' land to corner of lands of Tucker Woolley; thence with the westerly line of said Woolley's lands to the corner of lands of George W. Brown; thence with the westerly line of said Brown's land to corner of lands of Joel Potter; thence with said Potter's westerly line to the aforesaid Eatontown and Sea-Shore turnpike; thence along the same to southeast corner of lands of A. M. Christellar and others, and known as the Kensington Park property; thence northerly along the eastern line of the same to the said New Jersey Southern Railroad; thence easterly along said railroad to place of beginning."

A supplement, passed April 8, 1875, authorizes the commission "to establish a Board of Health, define its powers and duties and provide for the protection and maintenance of the health of the inhabitants." Under this authority a Board of Health was established, and has proved a great benefit to the people of Long Branch.

The presidents of the commission since its organization have been Joseph H. Cooper, Thomas R. Wooley, R. H. Woodward and George W. Brown. The president of the Board of Health is Dr. S. H. Hunt.

The first physician of whom any knowledge has been obtained as having practiced near Long Branch was Dr. Elisha Perkins, a native of New England, who was an eccentric genius, and practiced medicine in accordance with his peculiar ideas. He lived here before 1800, and owned a large farm, and built a starch-factory where St. James' Church now stands. A part of the farm reached to the beach. The old residence was standing in 1855, and is now used as a barn. He moved to Baltimore, Md., after 1812.

Dr. Jacob H. Van Derveer began practice in this place in 1846.

Dr. Z. W. Scriven began practice in 1851, and continued until his death, in 1876.

Dr. Thomas G. Chattle came to Long Branch in 1855 and is still in practice here.

Dr. James O. Green opened an office here in 1864, and is still in practice.

Dr. J. B. Goodenough came to Long Branch, from Blue Ball, in 1875, and is now practicing here.

Dr. James H. Chasey, a student of Dr. Scriven, graduated and located here in 1875. He is one of the present physicians of Long Branch.

Dr. Henry H. Pemberton came to the Branch in 1874. His brother, Dr. John Pemberton, began practice in 1880. Dr. George W. Brown, a student of Dr. Chattle, began practice in 1878. These are all now in practice at Long Branch.

*The Long Branch News*, the pioneer newspaper of Long Branch, was first issued November 1, 1866. It was a six-column paper, published by Major James S. Yard, of the *Monmouth Democrat*, with James B. Morris as assistant editor, and who succeeded Major Yard in the proprietorship in 1868, and continued till his death, in 1871. It was continued by Major Yard until April 6, 1872, when Mr. J. Stultz, the present proprietor, purchased it and became the editor. It is now an eight-column paper. The office is on Second Avenue, near Broadway. A daily edition was started for the summer months May 28, 1866, and continued as such until 1882, when it was issued, as it still is, tri-weekly.

*The Long Branch Record* was established in Long Branch village by R. M. Stultz, January 4, 1883. On the 1st of October following, L. S. Bennett became a partner, and it is now conducted by Stultz & Bennett.

There are four post-offices within the limits of the Long Branch Commission, viz.: Long Branch village, Long Branch, North Long Branch and West End. The post-office at Long Branch village was established May 28, 1834, and was designated on the books of the department at Washington as "private." This







meant that the mail was carried at private expense from the nearest post-office, which then was Eatontown, where an office had been established a few years before with John P. Lewis as postmaster. The first postmaster at Long Branch was William W. Croxson, appointed May 28, 1834. The mail was carried from Eatontown to Long Branch by William R. Maps, who, in his diary, says: "April 19, 1838. —The last we expect to carry the mail from Eatontown." Uriah Smalley took the first mail contract, and carried it until about 1851, when James Reamer contracted for a term of years, but did not complete it. William West and John Van Wart carried the mail the remaining time of his contract, and in 1856, John Van Wart made a contract to carry the mail, and continued until the railroad was opened, in 1861, when the mails were carried by the railroad company.

The store of William W. Croxson was partly on the site of the present Van Wart Hotel. Mr. Maps, in his diary of date February 6, 1839, says: "William W. Croxson moved the post-office from Long Branch to Israel Williams' store without consulting the people. March.—People indignant on account of removal to Mechanicsville. Croxson brought it back on the 6th."

Mr. Croxson continued in the office until about 1846, when Charles Lyon was appointed and served two years. The office was kept in his cabinet-shop. He was succeeded in 1848 by Henry Howland, who was appointed and served until May 21, 1854, when John A. Morford was appointed. The office was removed to his store, where Curtis, the hatter, now is, and where it remained until 1860, when John Slocum was appointed postmaster, and remained until about January 1, 1875, when the present postmaster, J. A. Howland, was appointed. Under Slocum the office was moved to the east side of the present building and moved to the west side of the same building, when Mr. Howland came to the office, the west side having been fitted up with special reference to use as a post-office.

The Long Branch post-office was established about 1864 with Charles Sprague (who then

kept the Ocean Hotel) as postmaster. It was afterwards moved to the railroad-station and kept by James Allaire until 1871, when Lewis Slocum was appointed. He was succeeded by Matthias Wooley, the present postmaster, in December, 1874, when the office was removed to the present building, on Broadway, opposite Third Avenue.

The West End post-office was established in September, 1881, with D. M. Hildreth postmaster, who holds the position at the present time.

The North Long Branch post-office was established in 1874, with George Hoyt as postmaster. At his death George E. Ferguson became postmaster and continued a few months, being then succeeded by the present postmaster, C. E. Francis.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT LONG BRANCH VILLAGE was formed about 1840. Long Branch was made a preaching-place of the Shrewsbury Presbyterian Church many years ago, and on the 12th of July, 1846, the trustees of the church at Long Branch purchased a lot of Jonathan Slocum, not far from where the Reformed Church now stands, on which they erected an edifice, the corner-stone of which was laid July 12, 1848, and the church was dedicated July 29, 1849. It was used for worship until about 1855. On the 6th of March, 1856, an act of Legislature was approved, authorizing Jacob H. Van Derveer, John W. Slocum and Charles Herbert to sell the property, which was done. The building is now used as a store.

In December, 1883, the Presbytery of Monmouth were invited by a petition, numerously signed, to form a Presbyterian Church at Long Branch. A committee was appointed, who arranged to meet the petitioners in Library Hall, and, after examination of the case, organized the First Presbyterian Church of Long Branch, with about fifty members, who were largely members of the Second Reformed Church, and the elders of the Second Reformed Church were chosen as elders in the Presbyterian Church. Services are held in Library Hall. It is the intention of the society to erect a church in the near future.



**THE FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF LONG BRANCH** dates back in its organization nearly forty years. Among those who settled at Long Branch were many families of the Reformed Church faith, and a request was made in 1847, of the "Particular Synod of New York," to "come and occupy the ground." In the year 1847 the Board of Domestic Missions sent the candidate, Nathaniel Conklin, lately graduated from the Theological Seminary, to assume charge. He was ordained as an evangelist by the Classis of New Brunswick on the 4th of January, 1848.

Efforts were at once and successfully made to obtain means to erect a church. A lot was purchased, and the corner-stone was laid, July 18, 1848, by the Rev. Dr. Van Vrankin, of New Brunswick, Rev. D. V. Scott, of Newark, and the Rev. William Reilley, of Holmdel. The church was completed and dedicated November 22, 1849. The following, from the Minutes of the Synod, gives the history of the church to the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Wilson:

"In the spring of 1851, Mr. Conklin received a call to another field of labor, and he left before the church was organized. A committee had been appointed for that purpose as early as April, 1849, but the act of organization had so far failed for want of material. But now, a new minister being needed, the Board of Missions required that he should be a pastor and no longer a missionary. And hence the necessity arose that the church be organized. This was accomplished on the 12th of July, 1851, nine persons presenting themselves for membership, of whom four were males. In the month of August following, a call was made on the candidate, James B. Wilson, a recent graduate of the seminary, to become their pastor. This call was accepted, and he was ordained and installed on the 11th of November following. In that field he lived and labored for twenty-seven years, and with what success we may gather from a few leading facts.

"The church, we have said, was organized with nine members. It found itself surrounded by a people who knew nothing of its doctrines, order or history; and who, indeed, were indifferent on the subject. Passing by a few families, the whole population, except such as were regular attendants at the old Methodist Church, represented a mission field. The Board of Missions gave the pastor two hundred and fifty dollars for the first year. The church found itself in debt six hundred dollars. This was paid in the next four years. In two years more a parsonage was

obtained, leaving a debt of only about six hundred dollars, and in seven years from the beginning of his ministry the church was self-supporting. And, better than all, in the eleventh year the church reported sixty-eight members in full communion. This church, so small in its beginnings, has come to be strong and influential. And not only did Mr. Wilson care for and labor to build up his own church, but he felt called upon to extend the influence of the Reformed Church as he had opportunity. Three churches, besides the First Church, are what they are to-day through his efforts and sacrifices. His connection with the church was dissolved during 1878. The present pastor, the Rev. Charles J. Young, was installed February 6, 1879."

**THE SECOND REFORMED CHURCH OF LONG BRANCH** is of but recent date as to its organization as a religious body. For many years prior to 1878 visitors at the sea-shore had desired a more convenient place of worship than the edifice of the Long Branch First Reformed Church. This resulted in the building of the "Sea-side Chapel" by subscription. The corner-stone was laid August 16, 1866. Before the work was far advanced a lady from Hartford offered five thousand dollars to enlarge the chapel from the size intended. The offer was accepted, and the chapel was completed and dedicated July 14, 1867. Preaching was supplied by visiting clergymen for eleven years. In 1878 it was thought advisable to place the chapel under control of some religious organization, and, in accord with the desire of most of the people constituting the congregation, the Second Reformed Church of Long Branch was organized, May 28, 1878, with thirty members. The Rev. James B. Wilson resigned the pastorate of the First Church and was installed pastor of the new congregation. He continued until April, 1881, when he resigned, and was succeeded by the Rev. William Phraner. The church disbanded December 17, 1883. The chapel is now used for services during the summer season.

**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA**, is located at Long Branch, at the corner of Second and Chelsea Avenues.

Fifty years ago there was not more than five or six resident Catholics in Long Branch and vicinity, and these were natives of Ireland. In the summer several families usually came from





New York and Philadelphia. It is probable that visiting priests often offered Mass in the summer hotels for the accommodation of the Catholic guests, but the first well-authenticated instance of the offering of the Mass in the place was about the beginning of September, 1848; probably Bishop Hughes, of New York, was the celebrant. This Mass was said in the dining-rooms of the Cooper House, now the Ocean Hotel. In that hotel Mass was said by visiting clergymen during five summers, and then Father John Kelly, of South Amboy, offered Mass at stated intervals in the house of Michael Hogan, which is yet standing back in the field near the Catholic Cemetery of Mount Carmel.

The first Catholic Church built here was erected in 1852, on the corner of Chelsea Avenue and the New Jersey Southern Railroad, on the lot where Mr. Noyes' cottage now stands. Mr. Patriek McCormack, of Elizabeth, N. J., took a warm interest in its welfare, and it was mainly through his generous efforts that it was completed. It was known as "The Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea."

Fathers Kelly, Killeen and Saloan ministered to the congregation after the church was built, and the last-named clergyman was obliged, owing to the increase of his flock, to erect the new church. Shortly after its completion the old church was pulled down.

In 1877, Rev. James A. Walsh became resident pastor, and remained until May, 1883. During the ministrations of these clergymen Catholicity increased both spiritually and temporally.

The congregation has a handsome frame church fronting on Second Avenue and a comfortable rectory on Chelsea Avenue. The present rector, Rev. James A. McFaul, took charge of the church May 1, 1883, and he is gratified with the continued increase of the congregation, both in winter and summer, and he feels that the Catholics under his charge are keeping pace with the progress of this beautiful seaside resort. The congregation numbers about two hundred and fifty in winter and about two thousand five hundred in summer. As a further proof of the progress of his church,

he points to the partly-completed new church of St. Michael (of which he is also the rector), situated at the West End, near Takanassee Lake. Mass was first celebrated in the temporarily-roofed basement of the church on August 19, 1883, at eight A.M. The church is closed in winter, but the summer congregation numbers about four hundred.

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1853 as a branch of Christ Church of Shrewsbury, and was for a short time under the care of the Rev. Harry Finch, who served about five years. He was succeeded by the Rev. Jacob H. Moore, who served two years. The Rev. R. A. Poole was called, and remained from 1860 to 1873, when he was followed by the present rector, the Rev. E. D. Tompkins.

Soon after the organization the lot on Broadway was secured and a small church building was erected, which has been added to from time to time. The church has at present about two hundred communicants.

ST. LUKE'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH had its beginning as a branch or preaching-place from the First Church of Long Branch, at Branchburg.

In 1856 the Methodists of Long Branch village purchased the Presbyterian Church building, which stood on Broadway, opposite the head of Washington Street, and is now used for stores. A parsonage was built, in 1861, on the lot adjoining. The present church organization was effected in 1860 from members from the First Church. Later, the society was incorporated as the Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church. A lot was purchased at the corner of Main and Washington Streets, and building commenced in January, 1866.

An act was passed February 23, 1866, which recites that the trustees of the church had purchased a lot and commenced the erection of a house of worship. It authorized the trustees to "sell the old house of worship known as the Long Branch Village Church." The cornerstone of the church was laid May 4, 1866. It was finished and used, but not dedicated until August 9, 1868, by Bishop Edward S. Janes. The name of the church was changed from Centenary Church to St. Luke's Methodist



Episcopal Church, by act of incorporation, February, 1880. The following named have been pastors of the church: 1862, J. Atwood; 1865, C. W. Heisley; 1866, J. J. Gross; 1874, H. M. Brown; 1875, C. S. Van Cleve; 1876, G. C. Maddock; 1878, C. R. Hartranft; 1880, J. Moore; 1883, R. Thorn.

THE ASBURY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, at North Long Branch, was erected in 1869. The corner-stone of the building was laid April 22d of that year, and it was dedicated on the 8th of August following. The society was organized in April, 1872, from members of St. Luke's Church. It has been served by the following pastors: J. W. Morris, 1873-74; W. P. C. Strickland, 1875-76; E. C. Hancock, 1877-78; S. W. Lake, 1879-80; S. F. Wheeler, 1881-83; S. S. Wetherby, 1884.

THE SIMPSON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1882 from members of the Centenary Church. Its pastors have been J. A. Jones (1881-83), A. H. Eberhardt (1884). A church was erected in the lower village in 1881-82, and was dedicated July 16, 1880.

THE TRINITY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in 1882 under the Rev. Alfred Garrison. A church was built on Liberty Street, near Brook. It was dedicated August 28, 1882. The present pastor is the Rev. F. R. Martin.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH edifice at Long Branch village is situated at the corner of Pearl Street and Bath Avenue. The land on which it stands was purchased in 1872, and preparations were made to build, in the expectation of having the church completed in the spring of 1873. This was not accomplished, and an effort was again made in 1881, again resulting in failure. On the 17th of December, 1883, the corner-stone of a chapel was laid. The building, thirty-four by fifty feet in size, with a seating capacity of two hundred and fifty, was completed and is now in use. The church is under the charge of the Baptist Church of Eatontown, Rev. William Russell, pastor.

"A Mormon obtained consent to preach in

the school-house in the village,—the first services of the kind ever held in Long Branch." This is extracted from the diary of William R. Maps, where it is found under date of January 7, 1842. On the 15th of February in the same year he made this entry: "Considerable difficulty with the Mormon and anti-Mormon preachers." Again, Sunday, March 13th: "Mormon preaches against the Methodists; Betsey Tallman baptized by the preacher,—one of his first converts." March 27th: "Henry Brinley arrested the anti-Mormon preacher for disturbing Mormon meeting." The Mormon preacher made several converts, but beyond this fact nothing appears in reference to the matter.

THE LONG BRANCH SCHOOL DISTRICT (embracing Seabright, which is outside the limits of the corporation) contains six sub-districts and seven school-houses, including the High School building. The first house of which any information has been obtained as having been occupied for school purposes in this vicinity was built about 1780 on land then owned by Elisha West, and now by John Hoey, on Cedar Avenue, one mile east of Branchburg. This house was used until 1812.

In 1811 the people living at the Branch and along the shore became desirous of having a school-house nearer to them than the old one, and to that end Benjamin Wardell drew a subscription agreement, dated January 28, 1812, which, with the names appended to it, is given below,—

"Whereas, it is judged of great benefit to the inhabitants of Long Branch that a school-house should be built in some central situation in that district, and whereas, Benjamin Wardell agrees to give half an acre of land adjoining Tucker Cook's line, fronting the main road, for that purpose to be used, occupied and enjoyed by the said inhabitants, as long as they continue to keep a school in said house, contemplated to be built, which half-acre of land the subscribers shall put in good lawful fence, if the said Wardell at any time requests it, it being always understood, however, that the said land shall revert to and again become the property of him, the said Wardell, or his heirs, as soon as it ceases to be occupied for the purpose aforesaid." The names of the subscribers to the agreement and the sum sub-





scribed by each for the purpose of building the school-house are here given :

Enos Eastwood . . . . .	\$5 00
William Green . . . . .	5 00
Francis Emmons . . . . .	5 00
John Cook . . . . .	5 00
Samuel Slocum . . . . .	10 00
Benjamin West . . . . .	10 00
Joseph West . . . . .	5 00
Asher Wardell . . . . .	5 00
Job West . . . . .	8 00
Benjamin Wardell . . . . .	10 00
Joseph Parker . . . . .	10 00
Robert Parker . . . . .	5 00
John Emmons . . . . .	5 00
Richard Faber . . . . .	6 00
John Faber . . . . .	5 00
Cornelius Brower . . . . .	5 00
Gilbert Lane . . . . .	6 00
Peter Slocum . . . . .	10 00
Stephen Cook . . . . .	6 00
Joseph McKnight . . . . .	10 00
Joshua Bennet . . . . .	10 00
Bartholomew West . . . . .	5 00
William Throckmorton . . . . .	5 00
Joseph Tallman . . . . .	5 00
Henry Slocum . . . . .	8 00

The house was built on the site of the present No. 1 School-house, on Main Street ; John Wood was a teacher in the house in 1814, he having previously kept a private school. The house stood until about 1840. The question of a new house was agitated as early as 1835, and on the 3d of August in that year Peter Parker began taking subscriptions for a new house. The enterprise was delayed, and August 6, 1837, a meeting of the citizens was held to take measures to build a new house. This was not done, however, until 1840, when a school-house was completed and used until 1867. This house was getting old, but opinion was divided as to the propriety of building a new one. The old school-house was set on fire four times in the last few years of its use, but was saved each time. In 1842 the district was known as No. 6. M. Hampton, W. R. Maps and N. Woolley were elected trustees in March of that year. The new house was built in 1867, and is still in use.

Within the territory of Sub-District No. 2 the first school-house was built in 1844 on Broadway and Academy Alley, the site of the present Library Hall. It was used until 1881,

when the lot was sold and a lot was bought on Garfield Avenue, and the present brick building, one story, fifty by seventy-five feet in size, was erected at a cost of six thousand dollars.

In Sub-District No. 3, North Long Branch, or Atlanticville, the first school-house was built before 1848, and stood on the road leading to Raccoon Island, half a mile north of the depot. The present house, thirty-four feet square, was erected in the rear of Atlantic Avenue in 1873, at a cost of three thousand eight hundred dollars.

In Sub-District No. 4 the original school-house was built in 1840, on Deal turnpike, near West-end Avenue, and replaced by the present one-story frame, twenty-five by forty feet in size, in 1875, at a cost of three thousand dollars.

Sub-District No. 5 (Seabright) is in the school district of Long Branch. The first house was built at the place in 1874, on River Avenue. It was burned in 1878, and replaced on the same lot, in 1879, by the present brick one-story house, twenty-five by forty feet. An addition was made in 1882, making it sixty-five by forty feet in size. Its total cost was three thousand six hundred dollars.

In Sub-District No. 6 a one-story frame school-house, for colored children, was erected in 1884, on Brook Street. It is twenty-five by forty feet in size, and cost two thousand dollars.

An act passed March 21, 1867, provided for the division of counties into school districts, and under it, District No. 6, of Long Branch, No. 7, of Branchville, No. 11, of Industry, and No. 12, of Fresh Pond, were formed into District No. 85. In accordance with other provisions of the act, the voters of the district met September 2, 1872, and passed a resolution instructing the trustees to erect a new school-house in Sub-Districts Nos. 3 and 4, and to establish a graduated school. An act of Legislature passed April 3, 1873, authorizing the organization of a Board of Education, and providing for the establishment of a graded school. In accordance with this act, a Board of Education of Long Branch was elected, who proceeded to the erection of a High School building on a block of ground lying between Prospect and Academy



Streets and Morris and Willow Avenues. Proposals were advertised for, August 23, 1874, and a contract was soon after made for the erection of the present brick High School building. It was completed at a total cost of thirty-two thousand dollars, and was dedicated July 12, 1876.

The High School building is of brick, three stories and basement, and of irregular form, the central part forty by sixty feet, with wing, making a total of seventy and eighty feet. The house has a seating capacity of seven hundred.

The county superintendent, Rev. Samuel Lockwood, in his report of 1883, says of this district,—

"It is a notable fact that No. 85, containing the large borough of Long Branch, with its vaster school interests, with an efficient Board of Education, though but one school district, is really a consolidation of a number of districts, each one of which has greatly increased school accommodations since entering this union, and all have the advantage of the fine central High School. But the other schools are all feeders to this, and are classified as primaries, and the principal of the High School supervises the primaries. This efficient solidarity is virtually an admirable exemplification and defense of the township system in vogue in some of the States. In the case here mentioned the principal is truly the local superintendent."

The present (as he was also the first) principal of the Long Branch High School is Professor James A. Green.

Private schools have been taught at Long Branch nearly as follows: The first was taught by John Woods, about 1812. William R. Maps attended the school. It was taught in the new school-house in 1814. John Slocum attended school under him in that house.

In 1861, Miss Mary Shepherd opened a school on Broadway, in rooms of Mrs. Mary Morgan. She continued until 1865. The next year a school-house was built on Clark Street, in the rear of the St. James' Church. School was kept by a lady who later became the wife of the Rev. R. A. Poole, rector of St. James' Church. This school was afterwards taught by Miss Mary Moore until 1871, when the house was sold.

In 1870 a school-house was built, twenty by thirty feet, on the corner of Grove Street and

Broadway, in which school was kept by different ladies until 1875, when it was discontinued.

In 1863, William J. Hubbard, a graduate of Jefferson College, Virginia, opened a private school for boys in a building erected for that purpose by N. W. Troutman, on the corner of Long Branch and Sea View Avenues. This school was kept about ten years.

In 1871, J. T. Jones opened a private school for boys in a building known as Scriven's Store, on Broadway, corner of Pearl. He taught there two years, and was chosen principal of School No. 2. He was followed by W. D. Ireland, who continued about a year, and was appointed principal of School No. 3.

In 1874, Mrs. J. S. Morris opened a private school and taught two years, and became a teacher in No. 2.

Miss Z. A. Eaton, in 1876, was a teacher in the High School. After one year she resigned and married. Mrs. Z. A. Schroeder is now teaching a private school for young ladies on Union Avenue.

The East Long Branch Reading-Room and Library Association owes its existence to the exertions and energy of Mrs. J. S. Morris, who was prominent in its organization. It was incorporated in the winter of 1879-80. The old school-house lot No. 2 was bought, and the corner-stone of the present building was laid March 2, 1880. It is a frame building, thirty by sixty feet, two stories, with library and reading-room in the first story and a hall in the second story. A small collection of books was procured at first and the library was opened in Washington Hall, where it was kept until the completion of the hall. The reading-room is supplied with newspapers and periodicals. The library contains about two thousand volumes. Mrs. Hugh J. Hastings is president. Mrs. J. S. Morris was secretary from the first until March, 1884, and was succeeded by Miss Caroline Scott.

A Circulating Library Association was formed October 13, 1854, with rooms in a building which stood on the site of the Reformed Church parsonage. It closed after an existence of three years. In 1865 a library of about three thousand volumes was purchased in New York for







Eng<sup>d</sup> by A.H. Ritchie

Wm. W. Phelps



five hundred dollars by Dr. J. O. Green, Dr. T. G. Chattle, George Cade and Richard Davis, who brought it to Long Branch and opened it as a circulating library in Green's drug store, near Grand Street. It continued five or six years, and the volumes were then divided between the purchasers. Messrs. Cade, Davis and Chattle gave their portion of the library to the Young Men's Christian Association, which was formed in the winter of 1875-76. Rooms were opened in Bergen Block April 10, 1876. The rooms were afterwards moved over the Central Market, and were finally closed in 1881.

THE LONG BRANCH BANKING COMPANY was incorporated March 14, 1872, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, with right to increase to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The following-named persons were the incorporators: William R. Maps, Joseph E. Lippincott, Aaron S. Bright, John A. Morford, Thomas G. Chattle, Bloomfield Drummond, William H. Bennett, Eden Wooley, Abner Allen, Francis Corlies, Samuel C. Morris and William Hathaway. William R. Maps was chosen president, and still holds that office. Joseph Burrows, Jr., was chosen cashier, and served until May, 1874, when T. Con. Morford was elected, and served until May, 1883, when the present cashier, H. W. Johnson, was elected. The present capital is ninety thousand dollars, and the bank has a surplus of sixty thousand dollars. The banking-house was erected on the corner of Main Street and Branchport Avenue, and was opened for business May 1, 1873.

WILLIAM R. MAPS was born September 14, 1809, at Long Branch (then in the township of Shrewsbury), Monmouth County, N. J., of humble, though respectable, parentage, whose ancestors figured conspicuously in the War of the Revolution; and with their inherent patriotism they combined practical piety, and were among the first to compose the Methodist Episcopal Church of that place, and early taught their offspring the observance of religious principles, as a result of which the family of seven children all were religious, and members of Christian churches. A younger

brother, the Rev. Lewis T. Maps, was a member of the New Jersey Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died while stationed at Paterson, N. J., July 11, 1846.

Mr. W. R. Maps, at the age of thirteen, under the pastorate of the Rev. Bartholomew Weed, was united in church fellowship to the Methodist Episcopal Church of that place, of which he has continued an active and efficient member, having been its recording and corresponding secretary over fifty consecutive years. He has also filled various other offices in the church, such as class-leader, Sabbath-school superintendent, trustee, steward, etc. During his minority, to the age of sixteen, he remained at home assisting his father, working on his farm nine months in the year, and attending school during the winter season. At that age, owing to ill health, he was obliged to abandon work on the farm and engaged as clerk in a country store.

In 1826 he was employed by Alexander McGregor as clerk to take charge of his store at Long Branch, in whose employ he continued three years, on a salary of two hundred dollars per year, furnishing his own board and clothing. In 1829 he purchased the store of Mr. McGregor, paying what little money he had saved from his small salary and giving his note without security (though a minor) for the balance, which was paid, principal and interest, within five years. Mr. Maps, although always strictly temperate and a staunch friend of the temperance cause, was obliged to sell liquor while in the employ of others, as it was universally kept and sold in connection with groceries at that early day. But when he commenced business on his own account he resolved that none should be sold in his store, notwithstanding the prophecy of friends that he could not succeed in the business without it, as it was a staple article of sale in the mercantile business and paid the best profit. But he resolved to test the experiment: hence he had a notice posted up conspicuously in the store announcing that "*No more rum bought or sold here.*" This was the first, and for many years the only, temperance store in this section of country. How well it has succeeded time has demonstrated.

On the 11th of February, 1832, he purchased





the site for his future residence, and on the 16th of the following month commenced the erection of what has been his subsequent dwelling. This being completed, on the 15th of November, 1832, he was married to Miss Mary A. Tucker, adopted daughter of William I. and Mary Martin, of Deal, N. J. He still resides in the same house where he commenced house-keeping more than fifty-two years ago. On the 17th of September, 1838, his estimable wife died, leaving two daughters,—Hannah Maria and Mary Ann, the former now the wife of the Rev. Thomas Hanlon, principal of Pennington Seminary, N. J., the latter the wife of A. S. Lokerson, of Ocean Grove.

On the 12th of April, 1844, Mr. Maps married Miss Susan A. Hampton, of New York City, who died suddenly of heart-disease, May 27, 1883, leaving a daughter—S. Augusta Brittan, widow of Joseph R. Brittan, deceased—and granddaughter,—Susie May Brittan.

In 1832, Mr. Maps, being permanently located at Long Branch at that early day, and possessing an enterprising, progressive spirit, sought in various ways to give impetus to the importance of the place. Up to this time the nearest post-office was Eatontown, a distance of five miles from the sea-shore, and but a few years previous the nearest post-office was at Shrewsbury village, two miles farther off. It would be thought a great hardship, at the present time, to travel seven miles to mail or receive a letter. It was mainly through his persistent efforts that the post-office was established at Long Branch. The Post-office Department refused to extend the route until it became self-sustaining, so that for three years he had to have the mail carried by private conveyance from Eatontown to Long Branch before the department would consent to an extension of the route.

Mr. Maps also manifested a deep interest in our common schools, which at that time were in a very low condition. The school-houses were generally small, badly managed, and many of them in a very dilapidated condition. He advocated the building of a large two-story house in his district for two departments, but this met with opposition, and as a compromise, he succeeded in securing the erection of two

new houses, though smaller than he desired. Owing to the deep interest he manifested in the cause of education, he was elected and served for a number of years as school superintendent for the township of Shrewsbury before it was divided, embracing what is now comprised in Shrewsbury, Ocean, Atlantic and Eatontown townships, making it an onerous duty to visit all the schools once every quarter to examine and license teachers and give attention to all other matters appertaining thereto.

Mr. Maps represented his township, then Shrewsbury, in the Board of Chosen Freeholders from 1839 to 1847, having for his competitors during that time such prominent men as the Hon. Thomas G. Haight, Dr. John R. Conover and Captain James Green, alternately. Owing to the magnitude of this large township, and the amount of labor to be performed, the office was deemed of considerable importance.

He has also filled various offices of responsibility and trust, both in the township and in the church, with marked fidelity and efficiency. Mr. Maps, in 1872, having long felt the necessity of banking facilities for the accommodation of the citizens of Long Branch and for the success of business pursuits (having no bank nearer than Red Bank), took an active part in the establishment of the Long Branch Banking Company, and at its organization was elected president of the institution, which position he still retains, giving entire satisfaction to all interested.

EDEN WOOLLEY is descended from English stock, his grandparents having been Benjamin and Catharine Cook Woolley, who resided at Poplar, Ocean township, Monmouth County. Their children were Patience, wife of George Corlies; Deborah, married to Jesse Cook; Mary (Mrs. Thomas White); Elizabeth, wife of William Parker; and one son, Jacob, born on the homestead, where he was, during his active life, a farmer. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Tucker, of Deal, and had children,—Benjamin, Catharine (wife of John P. Lewis), Jacob, Tucker, Elizabeth (wife of John Howland), Joseph, Eden and Emeline (wife of John Corlies). Eden Woolley was born March 5, 1805, on the homestead, where, after



such advantages as the country schools afforded, he gave his services to his father in the cultivation of the farm, which he afterwards successfully managed. He was married, on the 10th of October, 1836, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Williams, of Poplar. Their children are Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. James E. Lippincott, of Long Branch), born September 21, 1836, and Sarah Louvinia (Mrs. Benjamin B. Hance of New York), born October 12, 1841. On the death of Mr. Woolley's father, in 1827, in his

during his active life so occupied with business interests as to leave little time for the discussion of political questions. He is still true to the Quaker teachings of his youth, and worships with the Friends' Meeting.

THE LONG BRANCH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY was incorporated on April 9, 1867, with the following corporators: Jacob Herbert, Francis Corlies, Henry Howland, James E. Lippincott, Samuel Laird, Samuel C.



*Edm. Woolley*

sixty-sixth year, his son Eden inherited a farm, as did each of the sons, his property embracing a portion of the homestead. This he sold to his brother and purchased land on which he at present resides, where he has since 1835 followed the pursuits of a farmer, though much of the labor has latterly fallen to other hands as a consequence of his advancing years. Mr. Woolley is a director of the Long Branch Banking Company, and, as a Republican, has served on the township committee, though

Morris, Thomas G. Chattle and Joseph H. Cooper. The first president was Jacob Herbert, who was succeeded by Dr. T. G. Chattle, who continued until its discontinuance. Dr. Chattle was secretary until chosen president, in 1870. He was succeeded by John E. Lanning. The affairs of the company were closed in 1875.

The Long Branch Police, Sanitary and Improvement Commission was incorporated (as before mentioned) April 11, 1867, with power





to purchase fire apparatus. Little was done at first, but in January, 1871, the Oceanic Engine Company, No. 1, was organized with twenty-three members. In the spring of that year the commission purchased a four-wheel Babcock Fire Extinguisher, No. 2, which was used until 1878, when it was exchanged for a No. 1 apparatus of the same kind.

A supplementary act, approved April 3, 1873, provides and declares

“That for the purpose of establishing an efficient Fire Department, and for procuring a hook-and-ladder truck, or other fire apparatus, and preparing cisterns for a suitable water supply, and for procuring a suitable lot and erecting thereon a building in which to keep said apparatus, it shall be lawful for the Long Branch Commissioners to raise, at such times as they may deem expedient, a sum or sums of money, not exceeding in all the sum of seven thousand dollars, by taxation, in the usual manner for raising funds for the use of said commissioners.

“That the said commissioners be, and they are hereby authorized to entrust the apparatus aforesaid to the Oceanic Fire Engine Company, No. 1, of Long Branch, for care and use, subject to such regulations as said board of commissioners shall deem essential to the welfare of Long Branch; and they are hereby authorized to raise by taxation and appropriate such moneys from time to time as may be necessary to keep the same in repair.”

The apparatus was turned over to the company, and the present two-story building on South Street, near Bath Avenue, was erected, and is now occupied by this company and the Neptune Hose Company. The company has at present ninety members.

At a meeting of the commissioners, December 4, 1884, it was decided to purchase a steamer for this company, and one also for West End Company. Atlantic Engine and Truck Company, No. 2, was organized December 13, 1873, with thirteen members. The steamer “Atlantic,” with twelve hundred feet of hose, was purchased by the commission and placed under charge of the company, which now numbers about one hundred members. The engine-house is on Third Avenue, near Broadway.

Neptune Hose Company, No. 1, whose quarters are with the Oceanic, was organized in 1875, and now numbers thirty-five members. The company have twelve hundred feet of hose, which belongs to the commission.

The Long Branch Fire Department was organized by an ordinance of the commissioners, November 2, 1878, and the limits “divided into six fire districts, to be known as the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Fire Districts. The First District was made to include all that portion of the incorporated district lying south of Green’s Pond; the Second District, all that portion bounded on the north by Brighton Avenue, on the south by Green’s Pond, on the west by Deal turnpike and on the east by the sea; the Third District, all that portion bounded on the south by Brighton Avenue, on the east by the sea, on the north by Bath Avenue, and on the west by road leading from John Woolley’s corner to Lane’s store, and by that portion of Deal turnpike running from said Lane’s store to Brighton Avenue; the Fourth District, all that portion lying between Bath Avenue and the New Jersey Southern Railroad, and west of the New York and Long Branch Railroad, also all that portion lying west of the west boundary line of District No. 3; the Fifth District, all that portion bounded on the south by Bath Avenue on the east by the sea, on the north by New Jersey Southern Railroad and Cooper Avenue, and west by New York and Long Branch Railroad; the Sixth District, all that portion lying north of the New Jersey Southern Railroad and Cooper Avenue.”

The ordinance provided for the election of a chief engineer and assistant chief engineer. An ordinance passed June 20, 1881, provided

“That the number of members of the Fire Department in the incorporated district of Long Branch shall consist of and be two hundred members, who shall be active firemen, duly enrolled, to be distributed among the different companies of said Fire Department, as follows, viz.: The Oceanic Engine Company, Number One (1), shall consist of and be sixty members; the Neptune Hose Company, Number One (1), shall consist of and be forty members; and the Atlantic Engine and Truck Company, Number Two (2), shall consist of and be one hundred members, to be distributed as follows, viz.: sixty members to the fire-engine and forty to the truck of said Atlantic Engine and Truck Company, Number Two.”

December 2, 1884, an election of the Fire Department was held by the Oceanic, Atlantic and Neptune Companies and Thomas D. Bazley, of the Atlantic, was chosen chief engineer



for 1884 and J. B. Flynn, of Neptune Company, was chosen assistant chief.

The Board of Commissioners, at a meeting held December 3, 1884, decided to purchase two steamers for the Fire Department,—one to be placed in charge of the Oceanic Engine Company, No. 1, and the other to be placed with a new company recently formed at West End.

The Long Branch Water Supply Company is the successor of the Long Branch Reservoir and Water Company, which was incorporated April 11, 1867, with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars and with the following incorporators: Joseph H. Cooper, John Hoey, Charles Chamberlain, Samuel Laird, A. S. Bright, E. Bondinot Colt, Charles A. Stetson, J. Lester Wallack and Francis Corlies. Nothing of any importance was accomplished by this company during the seven years next following its incorporation. On March 15, 1874, the company was revived by act of Legislature. The right of Whale Pond Brook was purchased for a water supply, and Green's Pond (now Takanassee Lake) was brought into use as a reservoir. Contract was made with Jesse W. Starr & Sons, of Camden, to erect the works and to lay mains. The work was commenced January 1, 1877, under the management of — Berkenbine, engineer. The mains were laid through Cedar Avenue, Ocean Avenue and Main Street to the corporate limits. The water was first used in June, 1877. Pipes were extended as required, and in 1879 attachment was made with the pipes of the Monmouth Beach and Seabright Water Company. In November, 1882, a consolidation of these companies was effected under the present name and present management.

The water system of Long Branch extends from Elberon to Seabright, about ten miles. Over fifteen miles of pipes are laid.

The Long Branch Gas-Light Company was incorporated March 15, 1884. Nothing was accomplished until 1868, when (July 1st) contract was made with James H. Lowry for the erection of buildings and laying fourteen thousand feet of mains for forty thousand dollars; works to be completed September 1st in the same year. They were not, however, com-

pleted and accepted until October 22, 1868. They have at present about ten miles of pipe laid and connected. Joseph R. Thomas is president of the company and William W. Silkworth is the secretary. The works are in East Long Branch.

Arioch Lodge, No. 77, I. O. O. F., was instituted March 13, 1848, with six charter members (of whom Hamilton Taber is the only survivor). Odd-Fellows' Hall was fitted up and is still used. The lodge has a membership of one hundred and sixty-nine.

Long Branch Encampment, No. 49, I. O. O. F., was instituted in 1872. It now has forty-five members. Meetings are held in Odd-Fellows' Hall.

Empire Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., was instituted September 17, 1873, in Washington Hall, with ten charter members, and with Henry Haekman as Noble Grand. In April, 1878, the lodge fitted up Odd-Fellows' Hall, in the third story of the building on Broadway, near Liberty Street, where their meetings are still held. The lodge at present has ninety-eight members.

Long Branch Council, No. 429, R. A., was instituted in January, 1880, with nineteen members, in Templars' Hall, where they still meet. They have at present sixty-three members.

Piqua Lodge, No. —, I. O. of G. T., was instituted May 14, 1868. In the next year a Templars' Hall, twenty-four by seventy eight feet, was fitted up over the store of Case & Conover, which was dedicated June 26, 1869. The lodge disbanded several years ago. The hall is now used by the Long Branch Council, No. 429, R. A.

Long Branch Lodge, No. 78, F. and A. M., was instituted March 3, 1867, with George W. Brown as Master. Meetings were held in Odd-Fellows' Hall about two years, and in 1869 the lodge removed to Templars' Hall, and in April, 1878, to Odd-Fellows' Hall, in the lower village, where they are at present. The lodge has at present one hundred members.

Standard Chapter, No. 35, R. A. M., was instituted in 1875, and now has forty-five members. Meetings are held in Odd-Fellows' Hall, in the lower village.





James B. Morris Post, No. 46, G. A. R., was organized July 5, 1880, in Odd-Fellows' Hall, where they still hold their meetings. The post has a membership of seventy-nine, with the following officers: W. T. Cobb, Commander; James Minton, Senior Vice-Commander; Stephen H. Lippincott, Junior Vice-Commander; Howard A. Brinley, Adjutant; Charles E. Dennis, Quartermaster.

Ocean Lodge, No. 83, K. of P., was instituted April 29, 1873, with forty-five members, and George W. Brown as Chancellor Commander. Meetings are held in Odd-Fellows' Hall. The lodge now contains ninety-six members.

Endowment Rank, Section 430, K. of P., was instituted June 29, 1881, and has at present fourteen members. Meetings are held in Arioch Lodge-room.

Long Branch Uniform Rank, No. 8, K. of P., was organized in November, 1882, with thirty-eight members. Meetings are held in the White building.

Crescent Lodge No. 764, K. of H., was organized May 31, 1882, and now contains twenty-two members. Meetings are held in Odd-Fellows' Hall, in East Long Branch. The officers are Albert Embley, Dictator; James S. Brown, Reporter; William W. Silkworth, Treasurer.

BRANCHPORT joins the Long Branch corporation on the north and west, and has Pleasure Bay as its northwest boundary. It is opposite Port-au-Peck, an old Indian camping-ground. Eighty years ago and many years afterwards it was the property of the Wardells, and known as the Peter Wardell farm. It has a dock on Pleasure Bay from which two steamboats make trips to New York. A hotel is near the dock. Because of its proximity to Long Branch, it has no church or school-house. Two wooden bridges have been erected over Pleasure Bay at Branchport, and in 1880 the present iron bridge was erected at a cost of five thousand six hundred dollars.

OCEANVILLE and Deal post-office are located a short distance south of Wreck Pond, and west of the south part of the incorporated district of Long Branch. At this place, in

1823, Brittan Tucker was keeping a store, and the Ocean Mills were in operation a short distance north of it. In 1825 a tavern was kept here by Hannah White, and later by John R. Conk. In 1857, Brown & Cook established a store, and in 1860, Thomas Cook withdrew and built the store he now occupies. George Brown kept the other store and became the postmaster of the office established here in that year. He was succeeded by Vincent Brown, and the office is now held by John Metzger. The present hotel was built first as a wheelwright's shop by Robert Bennett, and in 1854 was changed by John R. Conk into a hotel. It has been carried on by several, and at present is kept by Henry Gugel.

In the northeast part of Ocean township, from the north line of the incorporated district of Long Branch to a point three-fourths of a mile below the Highland bridge over the Navesink River, are the lands of the Monmouth Beach Association, the Seabright Fishing Company, the village of Seabright and the Smith property. All these lands were originally patented by Eliakim Wardell, the first sheriff of Monmouth County, and also one of the associate patentees of Monmouth. He came to this county with the Slocums and Parkers, and took the oath of allegiance at the same time. He was a son of Thomas Wardell, who came to Boston between 1633 and 1640, and later moved to Exeter, N. H. He was a follower of Anna Hutchinson. Eliakim, after marriage, settled in Hampton, N. H. His wife joined the Society of Friends, which brought persecution upon them, and they went to Rhode Island, and thence, about 1667, moved to Monmouth County, where, in 1670, he secured a patent of land in Shrewsbury, lying north of what is now North Long Branch, bounded by Pleasure Bay, South Shrewsbury River and the ocean. He bought the Indian rights of this tract for four pounds. He was evidently a man of influence, for, on December 14, 1667 he was selected as a deputy to represent Shrewsbury township in the council. In 1669 he was appointed constable; in 1673 was elected "schepen," or magistrate, under the Dutch. On May 13, 1683, he was appointed



high sheriff of Monmouth County, and in 1688 he was chosen a member of the Provincial Assembly of deputies.

Eliakim Wardell lived on what is now Monmouth Beach. He had several children, of whom Joana became the wife of John Eaton about 1715 and settled at what is now Eatontown, as he at that time owned the mills there. Jacob, a son of Eliakim, settled on the original tract, and had two sons, Joseph and Peter. Joseph settled on Narumson, or Rumson, where his descendants still live. His brother Peter remained at home a few years and moved away, and his children settled elsewhere. He returned to the old homestead in his old age and died there. After Peter left the homestead, Joseph bought out the heirs and placed his son Benjamin on the place. He was born in 1763, and built the house now a part of the Monmouth Casino. He died in 1821, and left the property to his sons, Charles and Henry. The former moved to New York and engaged in active business, and was prosperous. Henry remained on the homestead, where he lived until his death. Of other sons of Benjamin, John went to Colt's Neck and was in business there in 1812.

In 1865, Dr. Arthur V. Conover, a physician of Freehold, purchased of the heirs of Major Henry Wardell all the land from Atlanticville (now North Long Branch), between the South Shrewsbury River and the ocean, to a mile north of Seabright, with the exception of the track of the railroad company. Dr. Conover removed to the old Wardell house, and, in 1869, sold Seabright to Mr. Mifflin Paul, and the place began to develop at once.

In the spring of 1871, Mr. Keasbey, of Newark, Cortland Parker and John Torrey, Jr., thoroughly examined all the capabilities of the place, staying in the old Wardell homestead, where Dr. Conover was residing. It was built in pre-Revolutionary times, and was filled with delightful relics of a past age, full of historical interest. The three gentlemen then worked out the plan of the Monmouth Beach Association, and, enlisting with themselves seventeen others of the foremost men of New Jersey, including Secretary Robeson and Senator Cattell, formed the association definitely, and by the 17th of

June had purchased the entire place, from Mr. Gould's down to the Seabright line. Mr. Torrey, having leisure time and great energy, went to work, with the assistance of Harry Fosberg, a Swedish engineer, and laid out the whole place, shifting the New Jersey Southern track from the beach and running it back where it is now, at an expense of twenty thousand dollars, the company furnishing the iron rails. Ocean Avenue was then continued until it met the Seabright road.

In 1872 the old Wardell house was remodeled and made into the present Monmouth Casino. A survey of the property was made, and lots and streets were laid out the entire length of the tract. A charter had been granted in the winter of 1869-70 for the Seabright and Long Branch Turnpike Company, which was built in 1870. This was purchased by the association and made part of the plan. A large gang of men were set at work grading the lots which are on both sides of Ocean Avenue. A large number of cottages have been erected. An Episcopal Church (St. Peter's of Galilee) was built on the extreme north line of the association's land and near the ocean, at a cost of eight thousand dollars, and was dedicated August 26, 1873. It is supplied by visiting clergymen, and is used only during the summer season.

The Seabright Fishing Company own a tract of land between Monmouth Beach and Seabright, it being two hundred feet on the ocean and three hundred feet on the river. There are upon it a few cottages, an ice-house, a steamboat wharf and boat-houses. At this place fish are packed for the New York market. On the 1st of June, 1884, two hundred and sixty-eight small boats were on the shore at this place, each having two men, and all loaded with fish.

SEABRIGHT is situated on the narrow neck of land that lies between Shrewsbury River and the ocean. The land forming its site was sold June 25, 1869, by Dr. Arthur V. Conover to Mifflin Paul, who was the contractor of the Long Branch and Sea-Shore Railroad, and (1865) built the road from Long Branch to the steamboat wharf on Sandy Hook in 1865. The land he purchased extended from the north line of the Seabright Fishing Company's land one



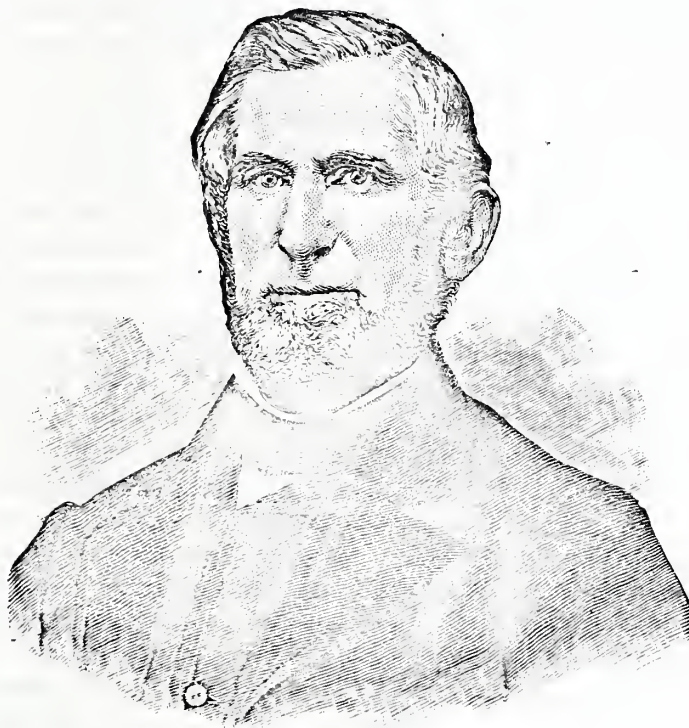


mile and three chains, northward to the Ocean House property (now Bellevue), owned by Lewis Smith.

On the 1st of July, 1869, William W. Shippen, of New York, and Samuel B. Dod, of Princeton, became partners in the property, with the intention of developing it. A stipulation in the purchase was that a bridge should be built across the river, connecting with Rumson. A bridge between three hundred and four hundred

Hoboken. In the spring of 1870, Robert Emory erected a hotel which has since been enlarged and improved, and is now the Seabright Inn.

**MIFFLIN PAUL.**—Josiah Paul emigrated from England and settled in Camden, N. J., where his death occurred in 1796 of yellow fever. His two sons were William A. and Benjamin. William A. was a native of Camden, and spent his life in the State of New Jersey, having married Elizabeth Bennett, of Bordentown. Their



*Mifflin Paul*

feet in length was built, which was torn down in 1881 and replaced by the present iron bridge, at a cost of thirty thousand dollars. A station-house was erected at the place, on the line of the railroad.

The Long Branch and Seabright Turnpike Company was chartered in the winter of 1869-70, and the turnpike built in 1870, under the management of Mr. Paul. Cottages were built in that year by Mifflin Paul, William W. Shippen, Samuel Dod and Mrs. E. A. Stephens, of

children are William B., Mifflin, Jane (Mrs. Joseph Rickey), Joseph, Harriet (Mrs. Robert Narraway), Richard, Sarah E. (Mrs. Howard Knowles) and Mary Ann (Mrs. William Utter). Mifflin Paul was born on the 6th of April, 1814, at Moorestown, N. J., and in youth he moved with his parents to Groveville, Mercer County. Though deprived of opportunities for a thorough education, he devoted his leisure hours to intelligent reading and study, acquiring a thoughtful habit of mind and mental dis-



cipline, which made ample amends for the want of an academic course. In 1825 his father exchanged his property in Mercer County for two farms in Jefferson County, N. Y., to which the family removed and continued to reside for eight years. Mifflin Paul, in 1833, entered the employ of the Camden and Amboy Railroad in a subordinate capacity, and was finally promoted to the position of conductor, which he continued to fill acceptably for a period of eighteen years. He was then made superintendent of the Burlington and Mount Holly Railroad and directed the construction of the Pemberton Branch of the road. In April, 1861, he removed to Hoboken, having been made general superintendent of the various railroad enterprises projected by the late Edwin A. Stevens. He built the Hoboken and Newark Railroad, as also the Hoboken and Jersey City Horse-Car Railroad, and put both into operation, continuing for a while as manager of each. In 1865 he commenced building the Long Branch and Sea-Shore Railroad, of which he was for four years superintendent. Determining, in 1869, to embark to some extent in real estate operations, he purchased one mile and three chains on the sea-coast, now familiarly known as Seabright, and at once began the work of building and improving the property. It is not extravagant praise to say that Mr. Paul was the moving impulse in all the improvements made at this point, and has manifested much enterprise and taste in his extensive and varied undertakings. He obtained the charter and built the bridge across the Shrewsbury River against great opposition from the freeholders of the county, who at the time placed an injunction on the same, thereby delaying its completion. He has also erected two hotels, various cottages and other attractive buildings. Mr. Paul was, in September, 1835, married to Catharine, daughter of Benjamin Yard, of Mercer County. The children of this marriage who grew to mature years were Sarah E. (Mrs. George B. Sandt), Loretta (deceased), Jane A. (Mrs. D. W. Bedford, deceased) and Julia A. Mr. Paul was again married, in 1855, to Mrs. Martha H., widow of John P. Martin, whose children are Martha M. (Mrs. Charles Dederer) and one who is de-

ceased. Mr. Paul manifests little interest in the political issues of the day other than to vote the Republican ticket. His church relations are with the Baptist congregation at Red Bank. Of this church he is an active and useful member.

The Octagon Hotel was built by Mr. Paul for his daughter, Mrs. George B. Sandt. This was used a few years, and in 1879 the present hotel was built on its site. The Peninsula House was built on the river side in 1881, by Mr. Paul for his daughter, Mrs. C. H. Dederer. In the winter of 1884-85 it was moved to the ocean side, when the original structure became the wings of a central building, then erected, making it the largest hotel in Seabright. The Hotel Shrewsbury was originally erected by Cornelius Stokem as a refrigerator for fish. It was later turned into a cottage, and in 1880 into the present hotel, now kept by Woolman Stokes, Jr. A life-saving station is near the hotel. A post-office was established at this place in 1870, and located at the station. In August, 1872, John Megill, station agent, was appointed postmaster, and is still in office. In 1881 the office was moved from the station to the present location.

Seabright is Sub-District No. 5 of School-District No. 85, Long Branch. The first house was built in 1874, destroyed by fire in 1878, rebuilt of brick in 1879, and enlarged in 1882, at a total cost of three thousand six hundred dollars.

Water is supplied to Seabright by the Long Branch Water Supply Company. A company had been formed at Seabright, who laid pipes and connected with the Long Branch Company. In November, 1882, the companies consolidated and are now working as one.

The Ocean Fire Company of Seabright was organized May 25, 1881, with fifteen members. An engine was procured and an engine-house erected on Ocean Avenue.

THE TABERNACLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized in February, 1875, with six members and with the Rev. William P. Strickland as pastor. He has been succeeded by Revs. John Wilson, — Given, E. C. Hancock, J. E. Lake, C. E. Hill and the pres-





ent pastor, A. M. Lake. Services were held for a time in private houses. A church edifice was begun on Ocean Avenue in the spring of 1875, and dedicated in June 26th in that year by Bishop Janes.

In 1877 a small Presbyterian Church was erected, which was replaced in 1880 by the present church. It is used only in the summer, and is supplied by visiting clergymen.

A Roman Catholic congregation was organized in 1883. Services are held in Poppinga Hall.

The iron bridge across the Shrewsbury River connects Seabright with Jumping Point, on Rumson Neck. Many fine residences have been built at the place. Opposite Jumping Point was at one time the old Shrewsbury Inlet, through which the waters of the river entered the sea. The inlet has been several times open, and as often closed, as at present, forcing the waters of the river to seek an outlet into Sandy Hook Bay. In the diary of Robert Hartshorne (now in possession of his grandson, Edward Hartshorne) are found the following entries:

"January 10, 1756, with a very violent gale from the northeast, the sea broke through the beach opposite the mouth of Shrewsbury River."

"On January 20, 1757, with a very violent gale from the northeast, the sea broke through the beach at Jumping Point, now Salter's." The place here mentioned was the land of Richard Salter, opposite the Wardell property, which is now Seabright.

Shrewsbury Inlet was closed before 1775, and again opened in 1778. It was again closed in 1810 and again opened about 1830. In 1847 the "Cricket" steamboat, owned by Thomas Hunt, then running from Port Washington (now Oceanic), was wrecked on the bar. The wreck gathered the sand around it and thus hastened the closing of the inlet in that year.

Bellevue is the next property north of Seabright. It was part of the Wardell estate, and there, over forty years ago, Major Henry Wardell built a hotel known as the Ocean House, which was kept by Anthony H. Haggerty. It was destroyed by fire May 20, 1862, and came into possession of Lemuel Smith, who built the present Bellevue Hotel and still owns it.

Beyond Bellevue (northward) is the Highland Bridge and a railroad station for the Highlands of Navesink. On March 25, 1875, the Highland and Seabright turnpike was incorporated, and contracted with Mr. M. Paul to build a turnpike to connect Seabright and the Highland Bridge for the sum of seven thousand dollars. It was finished and delivered to the company June 30, 1875, and on the next day, July 1st, a schooner ran into the draw of the bridge and destroyed it. It remained unused for three years. The turnpike was not used under this company. When the Navesink Bridge Company was organized, a new turnpike company was also organized (December 18, 1878). April 15, 1879, Mifflin Paul was chosen superintendent, and the turnpike was soon after put in operation. During the interval from 1875 to 1878 encroachments had been made upon the turnpike by lot-owners building stables, fences, &c. These were ordered to be removed, which action, together with the fact that members of the first company felt aggrieved that the turnpike was under other management, occasioned long and tedious litigation, which is not yet entirely ended.

The sea-shore from Deal Lake, the southern extremity of Ocean township, northward to the southern line of the incorporated district of Long Branch is composed of numerous tracts of land taken up under several different patents and purchases, concerning which tracts the following information has been gathered:

In 1820, Jacob Corlies owned a large tract bordering on Deal Lake and the ocean, and now divided as follows:

A tract of land thirteen hundred and twenty feet on the ocean and four thousand two hundred and twenty-four feet on Deal Lake is now called Lochabor. It is laid out into streets, and is being improved. A life-saving station is on the dividing line between this tract and Asbury Park.

The Abner Allen house and grounds are situated next north, and next north is the John C. Hathaway house. The next property is known as the Deal Beach, the territory of which, and for several miles back in the coun-



try, was known as "Deale" or "Dale" before 1700.

In 1693 persons living in "Deale" petitioned for a passage-way through Francis Jeffrey's and John Tucker's land to their meadows.

In 1712 all the land from Hog Swamp to the beach was owned by Thomas White. On the 9th of November in that year he made his will, making his brother Amos and his wife, Elizabeth, his executors. His property was disposed of as follows: To Amos, his brother, of Shrewsbury, one-quarter "of my plantation situate, lying and being in the said Shrewsbury at a place commonly called Deale, and the fourth part of all my meadow upon Crosswork and Longwork." To his oldest son, Samuel White, "one-fourth part of Deale and Crosswork and Longwork." To his second son, Thomas, the same. To his third son, Amos, the same. To his fourth son, Jacob, "All that part of my plantation I now live on which lyeth to the west of the highway that goes through my plantation to Long Branch, with the half of all the meadows on the said plantation." To his youngest son, Levi White, "all that part of my said plantation I now live on which lyes below the highway that goes to Long Branch, except the half of the meadow to be divided to the said Jacob White, as aforesaid." He gave to his wife, Elizabeth, all his remaining real estate in Shrewsbury during her widowhood, and to his five daughters a certain amount of money.

The land of Thomas White was on the old highway from Long Branch to Squan; the highway ran through the White farm, as is shown by the will. The old homestead was, a few years ago, owned by James and Amos White, now by Thomas Murphy, west of the Deal Beach Station. The old house standing at the intersection of Deal Beach Station road and the Long Branch road to Asbury Park is said to have been built in 1770, and in 1820 was owned by Jacob White. This was part of the old White tract. It is now owned by Bloomfield Drummond and Samnel Hendrickson.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Deal: "There are several boarding-houses at this

place, where from fifty to one hundred persons may be comfortably accommodated."

A post-office was established at Deal Beach Station in 1874. The postmasters have been Edward Combs, Abner Allen and Samuel W. Hendrickson.

Northward from Deal is Elberon, which has already been mentioned in connection with the Long Branch district.

THE CENTREVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH edifice was built in 1882 at a cost of fourteen hundred dollars, and dedicated September 20th, in that year. Services were held in 1881 in the school-house of the district, under the care of the Rev. R. J. Andrews. He was succeeded in 1883 by the Rev. William Barnart, and in 1884 by the Rev. B. C. Lippincott, who is also in charge of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Long Branch, located at Branchburg.

The school districts of Ocean township are three in number,—Long Branch, Deal and Poplar Districts,—all containing three thousand and fifteen children of school age. The Long Branch schools are noticed separately in the history of that place.

Poplar District, No. 81, is situated in the west part of the township, west of Oceanville. The first school-house within the bounds of this district was built about 1784 on land then owned by Nathan Woolley, now by Mrs. Mary Beecroft. It was torn down about 1835, having then been in disuse for several years.

In 1836 a house was erected on land of John Howell, which was used until about 1864, when it was abandoned and the present house was erected on land of Edwin Woolley. The district at present contains fifty-six children of school age.

Deal District, No. 87, includes Oceanville village and territory adjacent to it. The first school-house in this locality was erected on or near the present school-house site before 1818, on what was then known as Sandy Lane. Joseph Wardell was a teacher there in 1823.

In the summer of 1870 the school-house was raised and a second story added, at a cost of





two thousand dollars. It was first used in December of that year. The district now contains one hundred and fifty-six children of school age.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

**THOMAS R. WOOLLEY.**—Britton Woolley, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Woolley, was born April 15, 1765, on the homestead at Poplar, Ocean township, now owned by Eden Woolley. He married Mary Williams, whose children were Britton, Jordan, and a daughter, Mary Ann. His son, Jordan Woolley, was born May 22, 1815, on the homestead, and after a residence of some years in his native county made his home in the city of Philadelphia. He was for several years sheriff of the county, as also coroner, and for successive terms chosen freeholder. He married Mary Jane Haslem, who was of English birth, and had children,—Thomas R. and Mary Jane (wife of Edward R. Sloenn). Mrs. Woolley died on the 1st of January, 1844, and he was again married, to Margaret Van Brunt, to whom were born children,—Clay, Penn, Ada, Sarah, Maggie and Annie. The birth of Thomas R. Woolley occurred on the 10th of March, 1841, in Philadelphia, where he received a rudimentary education, and afterwards entered a wholesale hardware-store and remained until his twenty-first year in the capacity of clerk. Removing to Long Branch, he was, in 1862, appointed under-sheriff of the county, serving three years with his father, then sheriff, and two years with his successor, William B. Sutphen. He resigned this office in 1867 for the purpose of embarking in the lumber business, which still engages his attention. Mr. Woolley was, on the 4th of December, 1864, married to Annie M., daughter of James C. West, of Long Branch, and granddaughter of George W. West, her maternal grandfather being Benjamin White. The children of this marriage are Thomas R., Charles P., Annie S. J. and Bloomfield Drummond, the last-named born April 3, 1876, being the only survivor. In 1866, Mr. Woolley was elected to the office of township superintendent of schools, and later served three years as member of the township

committee of Ocean township. In 1879 he was made chosen freeholder, and held office until 1883, when he declined re-election. He was, in 1877, elected by the citizens, irrespective of party, commissioner for Long Branch, and served for four years as chairman of the board, when, having placed the town on a firm financial basis, he declined further service. He is also a member and president of the Long Branch Board of Health. Mr. Woolley is a director of the Long Branch Banking Company, treasurer of the Long Branch Building and Loan Association, and was formerly treasurer of the Long Branch Gas-Light Company. He is a member of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, of Free and Accepted Masons, of Standard Chapter, No. 35, and of Corson Commandery Knights Templar. He is also connected with the Odd-Fellows and Knights of Pythias fraternities. He is frequently solicited to fill the office of guardian, and has on many occasions been appointed executor, these important trusts being invariably filled with unswerving fidelity to duty. Though of Quaker antecedents, Mr. Woolley manifests a liberal spirit toward all religious sects.

**JOHN SLOCUM.**—John Slocum, grandfather of John, the subject of this biographical sketch, a resident of Long Branch, and by occupation a mariner, married Miss Susan Wardell, whose children were Henry, James, Peter, Wesley and Susan. Henry, who was born at Long Branch, learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in the vicinity of his home, having married Lydia, daughter of John Bond, of Eatontown. Their children are James, John, George, Mary Ann (wife of Sidney Throckmorton), Michael C., Henry, Abram and Lydia (wife of E. G. Pitcher). John, of this number, was born November 28, 1811, at Long Branch, where, with the exception of a brief interval, he has since resided. He availed himself of such advantages as the winter sessions of a country school afforded, and at the age of seventeen resolved to render himself independent by mastering a trade. He chose that of a carpenter, and continued his apprenticeship until his majority was obtained. With skill as a workman, and excellent judgment in perfecting his plans,





Thomas R. Woolley





an extended business was soon established, the work being chiefly done by contract. He erected the Reformed (Dutch) Church at Long Branch, built the first cottage on the coast and many other structures of consequence, continuing thus occupied until 1852, when, abandoning his trade, he embarked in the lumber business at Branchport, under the firm-name of Pool, Slocum & Co., continuing this enterprise, with some changes of partnership, until 1865. Re-

death occurred October 20, 1851, and he was again married, October 11, 1854, to Mrs. Eunice H. Maps, daughter of Michael Ferguson, whose children are Eunice H., (Mrs. Harry Hoffer) and Lewis T. M., married to Elizabeth Goudy, of Chicago. Mr. Slocum has for years been identified with the business and public interests of Long Branch. He is a strong adherent of the Republican party, and from 1861 until 1876 held the commission as postmaster of the



*John Slocum*

moving at that date to Long Branch, he became a member of the firm of Maps, Slocum & Co., and still continues this business connection. Mr. Slocum was, in 1834, married to Ann, daughter of Britton and Ann Woolley, of Long Branch. Their children are Deborah H. (Mrs. James H. Slocum); J. Howard, married to Rachel L., daughter of William Price, of New York; Henry B., deceased; and Mary Ann, deceased, who grew to mature years. Mrs. Slocum's

latter place, receiving his appointment from Presidents Lincoln and Grant. He was a member, and for several years chairman of the township committee, and has filled various minor positions in both township and village. He is a member of St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal Church of Long Branch, in which he has held the offices of steward and trustee since its organization, and still acts in that capacity.



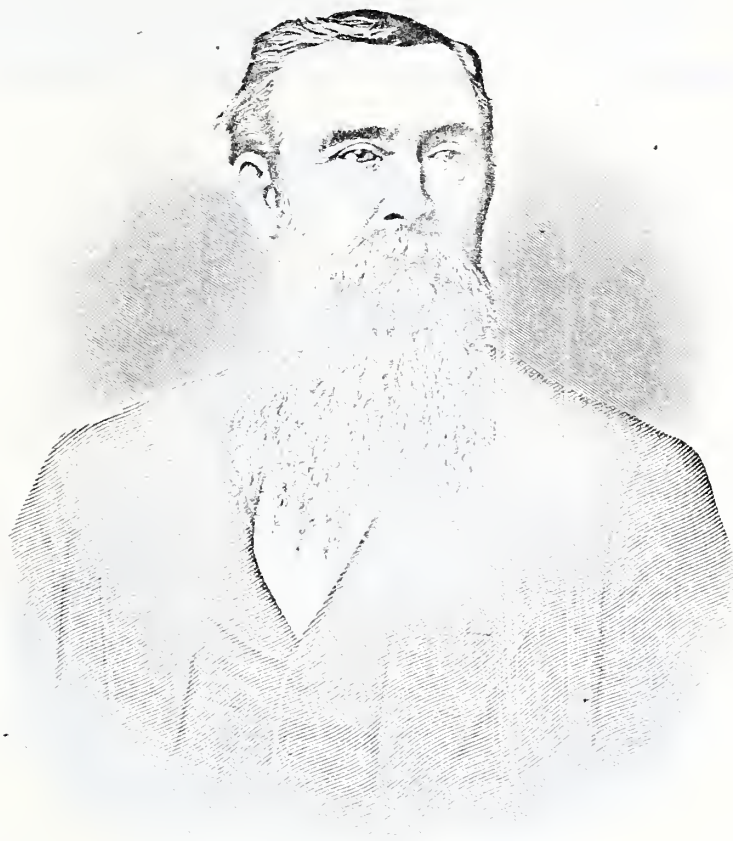
**THOMAS W. COOPER.**—Uriah, the grandfather of Thomas W. Cooper, who was of English birth, resided at Long Branch, where he died in his eighty-sixth year. He married Elizabeth Green, whose children were David, John, Benjamin, Sarah, Zilpha, William and Samuel. The last-named was born at Long Branch, and, though by trade a baker, in later years engaged extensively in real estate operations. He married Rachel, daughter of Thomas Woolley, of Poplar, whose children were Joseph, Thomas W., Martha W. (wife of Francis Corlies), Isaac E. and five who died in childhood. The death of Mr. Cooper occurred at Long Branch in 1864. His son Thomas W. was born on the 17th of July, 1830, at Long Branch, where he has since resided. He acquired at school a knowledge of the English branches, and was early made useful by his father in the management of a hotel owned by him, which occupation was supplemented by employment on a farm. Having determined to exercise the functions of a landlord, in connection with his brother Joseph, the Metropolitan Hotel, at Long Branch, was purchased and successfully managed for eight years. Mr. Cooper continued the business, in conjunction with farming, until 1869, when he embarked in the real estate and insurance business. This, by attention and judicious management, soon grew to large proportions, much of the property in the vicinity being immediately controlled by him or intrusted to his care. He is himself the owner of much valuable property and has been extensively engaged in building, either for purposes of rent or sale. He is a Democrat in politics and a strong Prohibitionist, the cause of temperance receiving a substantial support both through his means and influence. He is an earnest friend to the cause of education and a member of the Board of Education of Long Branch, his efforts in building the new graded school and various other school edifices having won the commendation of all liberal-minded citizens. He has been a director of the Long Branch Banking Company and identified with other public and financial enterprises. Mr. Cooper is connected by membership with Royal Arcanum Lodge, No. 429. He is a member of St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal

Church of Long Branch, in which he fills the offices of steward and assistant superintendent of the Sunday-school, having been also one of the building committee in the erection of the edifice. Mr. Cooper was, on the 18th of October, 1860, married to Mary L., daughter of Samuel Wardell, of Long Branch. Their children are Carrie (wife of Frederick Van Derveer), Emma, Thomas W., Jr., and Clemmie L.

**AARON EDWARDS.**—Daniel Edwards, who was a native of Monmouth County, resided at Eatontown Dock (now Oceanport), where he continued the occupation of a tanner until his death, in 1815. He married Ann Wardell, of the same township and county, whose children were William T., Stephen, Joseph, Eliza (Mrs. James Lane), Henry D., Ann (Mrs. William I. Chamberlain) and Daniel. Henry, whose birth occurred upon the homestead, was left fatherless in early youth, and, on attaining a suitable age, determined to follow the fortunes of the sea. He married, in 1835, Phebe, daughter of James Joline, of Long Branch, whose only child is a son, Henry B. His wife having died, he was again married, on the 19th of January, 1837, to Lydia, daughter of Aaron Cook, of Long Branch. The children of this marriage are Aaron, Sarah (Mrs. Ten Brook Morris), Asbury (deceased), Eliza, Lewis, Charles (deceased), Daniel and Thelbert. Aaron, the eldest of these children and the subject of this sketch, was born October 16, 1837, on the farm purchased by his father after his marriage, and located in the present Eatontown township, where his early years were devoted to school, and, later, to his father's various business enterprises, in which he proved an invaluable aid. At the age of sixteen he accompanied the latter on his vessel and speedily developed a quickness of perception in nautical matters, which aided him, when but a youth, in acquiring a practical knowledge of navigation. His skill in this science enabled him, at the age of nineteen, to take command of a vessel and, when twenty-one, to become joint-owner with his father of a craft, which he sailed until 1868, when, retiring from the career of a mariner, he became interested with his brothers in the construction of three vessels, the







Engraved by J. H. Smith

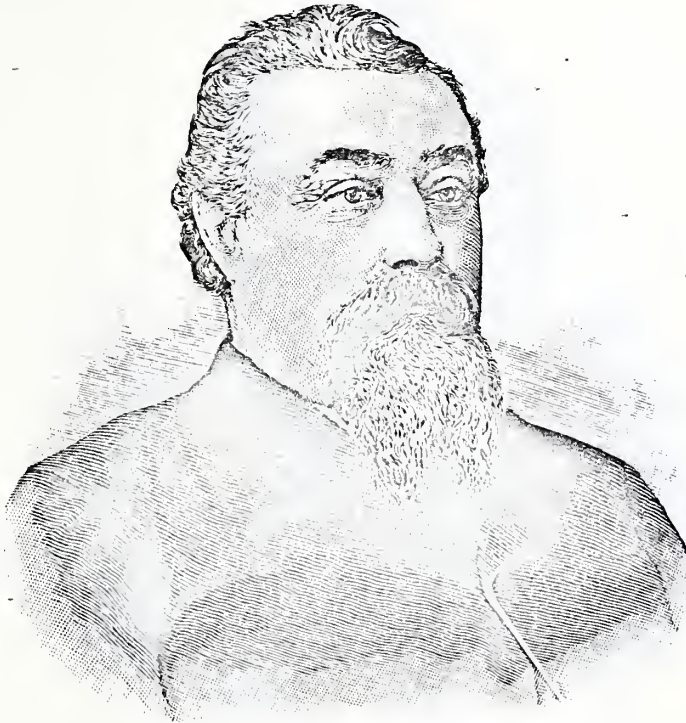
Thomas W. Coyle



building of which he personally superintended, remaining thus engaged until 1875. These vessels were employed in the carrying trade, and, as an outgrowth of this enterprise, the brothers, under the firm-name of L. & D. Edwards & Co., established at Pleasure Bay, in the same county, a depot for the sale of coal and masons' building materials. The business was continued at this point until 1875, when the present site at Long Branch was occupied, the New York and Long Branch Railroad having

Charles L. Mr. Edwards is inclined to conservative opinions in politics and rarely participates actively in party movements. He is a member of Long Branch Council, No. 429, Royal Arcanum, and of Mizpah Lodge, No. 61, I. O. O. F., of Oceanport. He is connected by membership with the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Oceanport, and, as a trustee, aided in the construction of the edifice.

GARRET D. VANDERVEER.—The grand-



*Claron Edwards*

laid side-tracks and offered other advantages for the accommodation of their large and increasing trade. In 1880 they erected a sash and blind-factory and a moulding and planing-mill, adding lumber and building material to their stock and otherwise enlarging the business, which, in this peculiar line, ranks among the most extensive in the State. Mr. Edwards was, in 1859, married to Mary C., daughter of Captain Thomas Riddle, of Oceanport. Their children are Asbury, Irene (Mrs. Lewis R. Williams) and

father of Mr. Vanderveer resided above Freehold during the period of the Revolutionary War, at which time he suffered great loss from British soldiers. His children were Tunis, David G., Garret, John, Hendrick and several daughters. David G., a native of Monmouth County, spent his life in the immediate vicinity of Freehold, where he was an industrious farmer. He married Katy, daughter of Rev. Benjamin Dubois, and had children,—Garret D., Joseph, Benjamin, Tunis, Henry, John, Eliza (wife of Peter Van





Dorn), Sarah Jane (wife of Joseph Lefferson), Phoebe Ann, Sophia (married to Addison W. Hobart), Margaret (wife of Thomas Hough) and Amanda (wife of Isaac Quackenbush). Garret D. was born on the 2d of January, 1805, on the homestead, near Freehold. After such very limited opportunities as were afforded at the schools of that early day, he assisted in the cultivation of the farm, and afterwards made the township of Marlborough his residence, where he continued the employment of a farmer. He was,

land until advancing years admonished him that the work should be done by other hands. He has always been a strong Democrat in politics, but held no office other than that of trustee of the public schools. He is a regular attendant upon the services of the Reformed (Dutch) Church at Long Branch, of which his wife is a member.

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ANTHONY TRUAX —Mr. Truax is descended from Holland ancestry, his grandfather having



*Garret D. Vanderveer*

in 1830, married to Eleanor, daughter of Daniel and Sally Polhemus, of Middletown township. Mr. Vanderveer later removed to Englishtown and cultivated a farm on shares, continuing to be a renter for some years after his removal to Middlesex County, N. J. He made other changes of location, but in 1839, preferring to be more independent than was possible on land owned by others, purchased the farm which is his present home, in Ocean township. He continued to labor for the improvement of this

land until advancing years admonished him that the work should be done by other hands. He has always been a strong Democrat in politics, but held no office other than that of trustee of the public schools. He is a regular attendant upon the services of the Reformed (Dutch) Church at Long Branch, of which his wife is a member.

ANTHONY TRUAX —Mr. Truax is descended from Holland ancestry, his grandfather having been John Truax, who married Catharine Goodenough and had children,—Elias and Betsey (who married Eli Williams). He married, a second time, Mary Sutton, whose only son was Goodenough Truax. Elias Truax was born in Shrewsbury, now Ocean township, and survived until his ninety-fifth year, having been during his period of activity a successful farmer. He married Hannah, daughter of William Layton, of Ocean (then Shrewsbury) township, whose children were



Anthony, John and Sarah Ann (wife of Hamilton Banta). Anthony was born on the 17th of July, 1810, in the present Ocean township, and remained until his twenty-first year at the home of his parents, acquiring meanwhile the rudiments of English at the district school and lending a hand at labor on the farm. He then engaged for four years in the burning of charcoal, and later in the sale of fish between Long Branch and Philadelphia. This occupation

period of forty years these duties have engaged much of his time and attention. In 1850 he was appointed by the court at Freehold commissioner of wrecks for the Deal district, and for five years performed the duties of that office frequently under trying circumstances, involving much peril and requiring great forethought and judgment. As a new departure from this routine of labor, he engaged in mercantile ventures at Poplar, Ocean township,



*Anthony Truax*

was varied by the business of boating between Oceanport and New York, after which he found the occupation of a butcher both profitable and easily managed. Squire Truax was, in 1849, as the candidate of the Old-Line Whig party, elected justice of the peace for Ocean township, and such was his popularity that for twenty years he continued to fill the office at the will of his constituents. His executive ability and fidelity to trusts have made him justly popular as executor, trustee and guardian, and for a

and three years after in the commission business in New York City. He then retired to the farm, which he had meanwhile cultivated in connection with his various pursuits, and which is his present home, following also during this lengthened period the calling of an auctioneer. During a practical experience of forty-five years he has sold a vast quantity of real and personal estate, has been appointed commissioner to divide and settle estates, often chosen as assignee and acted as arbiter in the





adjustment of differences. Squire Truax was, on the 15th of December, 1832, married to Miss Tenty Ann, daughter of Jacob and Mary White, of the same township. Their children were Henry, born in 1835; Hannah (wife of Matthias Woolley), in 1837; Jacob W. (deceased), in 1839; Elias L., in 1841; Mary Catharine (wife of George C. Taylor), in 1843; Cornelia (deceased), wife of Charles E. Hulick, in 1846; Anthony T., in 1847; George W., in 1849; Joseph C., in 1851; and Newell, deceased. Squire Truax is a director of the Long Branch Banking Company, of the Eatontown and Sea-Shore Turnpike Company and various other local enterprises. He is actively identified with church-work as member and steward of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Long Branch and of the Centreville Church of the same denomination, in which he is both steward and class-leader.

CAPTAIN W. S. GREEN is the great-grandson of Major-General James Green, of the Revolutionary army. His grandfather was William Green, who died in 1812. To his parents, James and Elizabeth Murphy Green, were born children,—Dr. J. O. Green, Elizabeth Green, W. S. Green, L. C. Green, E. S. Green and C. H. Green (deceased). Captain Green, the subject of this sketch, was born at Long Branch, August 13, 1837, and has lived all his life within hearing of the place where he first saw the light. He received his education at the Freehold High School, and after graduating he joined an older brother in the management of the large farm on which he was born.

In the year 1861 he married Mary, the third daughter of the late William Hathaway, of Deal Beach, N. J. About this time the farm was divided, and that portion of it lying on the north side of Cedar Avenue fell to his lot, a portion of which he sold. This has since been converted into a beautiful park, and is now one of the attractions of this celebrated watering-place. The remainder has been beautified and improved by the erection of picturesque cottages, many of which are now owned by non-residents; the remainder, four in number, are the property of Captain Green, from three of

which he derives a substantial income. The other is reserved for his private use and that of his family, consisting of a devoted and prudent wife and two interesting daughters, Alice E. and Florence M. The monotonous breaking of the surf upon the beach in storm and in calm was his lullaby. Born in sight and in hearing of the sea, he was inspired with a fondness for the ocean, and as he grew that fondness developed into a feeling akin to passion. He never wearied of sailing in his boat and seeking the recreation and pleasure which it afforded.

Many years ago, while the life-saving service was in its infancy and a volunteer one, he became greatly interested in its workings, and was always at hand to assist in the rescue of the crews of stranded vessels.

When the United States government inaugurated the present system of life-saving on the coast, the position of captain of a crew for that purpose was tendered him. The highest ambition of his life was thus realized; his dream of many years was fulfilled. He accepted the position—not from necessity, but from choice—and entered upon its duties with a zeal and earnestness greater, perhaps, than any other in a like position. Realizing the dangers which awaited him, the arduous duties which devolved upon him and the responsibility of the high and sacred trust committed to him, he at once proceeded to gather about him a crew between whom and captain there must be a mutual confidence,—an essential factor to the success of this noble service. These men are professional experts in surfmanship and wreckcraft, and to this proficiency have added all the acquisition and experience of the trained life-saver. It is unquestionable that the skill and bravery they have brought to the performance of their duty have contributed in an immense degree to the great success under their captain, which has given the service the high rank it occupies with commercial and maritime men and with the people at large. Notable among the wrecks from which Captain Green has been instrumental in rescuing the crews was the ship "Adonis," stranded March 7, 1859, from which all were saved. Another was the Red Star



steamer "Rusland," stranded March 17, 1877; from this, too, all were rescued. The next was the unfortunate steamer "Pliny," from South America, from which all were landed in safety. Her captain, Mitchell, having lost his all, was taken to the home of Captain Green, and by him and his kind-hearted wife hospitably entertained for several months. Then followed the ill-fated schooner "Light Boat," from which Captain Green and his gallant men landed the

was found and decently buried; Captain Green communicated with the friends of the drowned boy, and from them received expressions of gratitude and praise for his kindness to an unknown sailor boy.

As a reward of his kindness and bravery, Captain Green has in his possession many mementos and testimonials expressive of gratitude from the rescued, their relatives and friends, which will be cherished by his children as a



*Capt. W. S. Greene.*

crew in safety. This brave act was done at daylight, and in the face of a terrible gale, on February 3, 1880.

The next and last rescue to which the skill and heroism of Captain Green and his men were called was the ship "W. J. Stairs." From her all were brought to the shore in safety save one, the cabin boy. This, the only loss of life that has occurred in the captain's experience, was and always has been to him a source of regret, although unavoidable. The body of the lad

valuable and honorable inheritance. To detail the incidents connected with the rescue of the passengers and crews of these vessels would be simply to record the deeds of self-sacrifice and heroism which are constantly repeated as occasion offers. Captain Green has, during his connection with the Life-Saving Service, rescued more than three hundred persons from watery graves. He is regarded as one of the most skillful, intrepid and humane officers in the service, with a thoroughly disciplined and loyal crew under his command.

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JOHN D. COOPER  
Professor of Chemistry

JOHN D. COOPER is a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Chicago. He received his B.S. from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1968, and his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1972. He spent the next five years as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, where he worked with Professor R. M. Waymouth. He returned to the University of Chicago in 1977 and has since been a member of the faculty. His research interests are in the chemistry of transition metal complexes, particularly in the area of catalysis. He has published over 100 papers in this field and has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 1970.



The American Life-Saving Service under its present elaborate system of relief is ten years old. Its development covers nearly a century. The initiatory movement was the organization by a few benevolent persons of the Massachusetts Humane Society in 1876. In attempting to alleviate the miseries of shipwreck on the Massachusetts coast, small huts were built; and in 1807 the first life-boat station was established at Cohasset. The society depended upon voluntary crews, but so much was accomplished of value that some pecuniary aid was received, as time wore on, from both State and general governments. The magnificent work of the Coast Survey, begun in earnest in 1832, absorbed the resources of Congress for a decade and a half, during which period nothing was attempted in the way of life-saving except through voluntary societies. A few public vessels were, indeed, authorized in 1837 to cruise near the coast for the assistance of shipping in distress, but it was through the movement in aid of commerce, which extended to the light-house system. In 1847 five thousand dollars were appropriated by Congress toward furnishing light-houses on the Atlantic, with the facilities for aiding shipwrecked mariners. The money, after remaining in the treasury two years unused, was permitted to be expended by the Massachusetts society upon Cape Cod. In the summer of 1848, the Honorable William A. Newell, then a member of the House of Representatives from New Jersey, incited by some terrible shipwrecks on the coast of this State, induced Congress, through his eloquence, to appropriate ten thousand dollars for providing surf-boats and other appliances "for the protection of life and property from shipwreck on the coast between Sandy Hook and Little Egg Harbor." During the next session a still larger appropriation was obtained. Twenty-two station-houses were erected on the coasts of New Jersey and Long Island, and although no persons were paid or authorized to take charge of them, and they were manned by extemporized crews, their value in several cases of shipwreck was so great that Congress made further appropriations from year to year, and stations and life-boats gradually multiplied.

Through the pressure of a shocking event in 1854—the loss of three hundred lives off the New Jersey coast—a local superintendent was employed, a keeper assigned to each station, and bonded custodians placed in charge of the life-boats, which had been repeatedly stolen; but the absence of drilled and disciplined crews, of general regulations, and of energetic central administration, rendered the record of the institution unsatisfactory, and its benefits checkered by the saddest failures.

In the year 1871, Sumner I. Kimball succeeded to the head of the Revenue Marine Bureau of the Treasury Department, under the charge of which were the life-saving stations. He made it his first business to ascertain their condition. Captain John Faunce was detailed to make a tour of inspection, and was accompanied a portion of the way by Mr. Kimball himself. The buildings were found neglected and dilapidated, the apparatus rusty or broken, portable articles had been carried off, the salaried keepers were often living at a distance from their posts, some of them too old for service and others incompetent, and the volunteer crews were in a quarrelsome temper with each other and with the coast population. Then commenced that vigorous prosecution of reform which has crowned the humane work with unprecedented success. Making the most of slender appropriations, and in the face of perpetual discouragements, this one man, the chief of a bureau, pushed on by philanthropic impulses and guided by unerring judgment, brought a complete and orderly system into effect. It was not the work of a day, nor of a year. It required patience, sagacity and rare powers of organization and government. He knew no office hours, working day and night at what many were pleased to consider a hopeless task. In his brain originated the idea of guarding the entire coasts of the nation through the planting of a chain of fortresses to be garrisoned by disciplined conquerors of the sea. It is a matter of public record, and generally known to the country, that through his practical devotion to the cause this has been so nearly accomplished.

In reorganizing what there was of the ser-



vice, he prepared a code of regulations for its absolute control. The duties of every man employed were minutely defined. The lazy, the careless and the unworthy were dismissed, and men chosen to fill their places with sole reference to integrity and professional fitness. Politics was abolished. That is, experts in the surf were regarded as of more consequence to drowning victims than voters of any particular political ticket. The station-houses were repaired and increased in numbers as fast as the means afforded by Congress would allow; the appliances for life-saving were restored, and improved from year to year through the best inventions and discoveries in this or any other country, and a rigid system of inspection and of patrol was inaugurated.

The steps by which the institution reached its present plane of usefulness would furnish an interesting chapter. The record of the first season on the New York and New Jersey coasts, where the new system first went into actual operation, showed that every person imperiled by shipwreck was saved. Consequently a commission, consisting of Mr. Kimball, Captain Faunce and Captain J. H. Merryman, of the Revenue Marine, surveyed, in 1873, by order of Congress, the vast and varied coasts of the oceans and lakes, investigating personally the characteristics of the dangerous localities, and holding consultations with underwriters, ship-owners, captains of vessels and veteran surfmen. The report of this commission placed before Congress a minute account of the disasters to vessels on every mile of coast for the previous ten years; a bill based upon it, prepared by Mr. Kimball, became a law June 20, 1874. It provided for the extension of the field of this great national work of humanity; for the bestowal of medals of honor upon persons risking their lives to save others; and empowered the collection and tabulation of statistics of disaster to shipping, which, by reference to the periodicity of marine casualties, aided in determining the points most needing protection, and in various other ways benefited both government and maritime interests.

Comparatively few of the well-housed inhabitants of the land are alive to the fact that

through the long, cold, blustering days and the dark, rainy and tempestuous nights of the whole wintry season a cordon of sentinels is tramping the Atlantic coast from Maine to Florida on the look-out for endangered vessels. The hardships involved in these protracted marches, while all the world lies comfortably in bed, have no parallel in the employment of any other class of men. The beaches are often clad with ice, and at the best are pathless deserts in the night, and when lashed by storms are frequently cloven through with new inlets, while hills of sand are rent and torn away as the surf leaps furiously beyond its usual limits. The life-saving stations on the Atlantic sea-board are now within an average distance of five miles of each other, each crew consisting of a keeper and seven surfmen. At sunset two men start from each station, one going to the right, and the other to the left. They are equipped with lanterns and Coston signals, and each pursues his solitary and perilous way through the soft sand, in spite of flooding tides, bewildering snow-falls, overwhelming winds and bitter cold, until he meets the man from the next station, with whom he exchanges a check, to prove to the keeper on his return that he has faithfully performed his allotted task. The night is divided into four watches. The keeper is required to register in his log-book the name of each patrolman, his hours on patrol, the name of the patrolman from the next station whom he meets, the exact hour of meeting, and the direction and force of the wind at sunrise, noon, sunset and midnight, together with the events of each day. This record is sent to the chief of the service at Washington at the end of every week. These groups of seven beach guardians are, in a majority of instances, completely isolated upon the barren outlying strips of sand, separated from the mainland by intervening bays.

It is not a marvel that the American life-saving institution has taken a firm hold of the public heart. The territory which it guards—ten thousand or more miles—is divided into twelve districts. The Atlantic coast presents one long succession of varied dangers, beginning with Maine, where the capricious currents are forever playing sly games about the narrow





capcs, reefs, sunken rocks and peaks of islands half submerged, paving the coast like the teeth in a shark's jaw, taking in Cape Cod, that great arm of sand forty miles outward and upward, with its half-sunken, ever-shifting sand-bars, the islands and the rough rocky points on the Rhode Island coast—dreadful to mariners—and the long, unpeopled six hundred miles of beach from Montauk Point, Long Island, to Cape Fear, North Carolina, terminating with the arid coral formation of the coast of Florida, five hundred miles in extent. The great lakes, a group of enormous inland seas, with twenty five hundred miles of American coast-line, are subject to sudden and violent gales, which pile up seas so stupendous that anchored vessels are swept fore and aft, often causing their complete destruction; while others, running for shelter in harbors, miss the narrow entrances, and are blown helplessly upon jutting piers, or the still more dangerous beach. The stations consist of three classes, severally denominated life-saving stations, life-boat stations and houses of refuge. Each of the twelve districts is provided with a local superintendent, who must be a resident of the district and familiarly acquainted with its inhabitants. His compensation is one thousand dollars per annum, with the exception of those on the coast of Long Island and New Jersey, who, having too many stations to look after to attend to other business, are paid fifteen hundred dollars apiece. These officers are required to give from twenty to thirty thousand dollar bonds as disbursing agents, being intrusted with the payment of the men under them in addition to their general duties. They are responsible for the selection of the keepers of the stations—a duty requiring much knowledge and excellent judgment—who are not, however, confirmed without the acquiescence of the inspector, who is supposed to have no local interests or prejudices. The crews are chosen by the keepers. The keepers and crews are examined by a board of inspectors, consisting of an officer of the revenue marine, a surgeon of the Marine Hospital Service, and an expert surfman, whose qualifications are well known, to determine by a judgment wholly impartial, their character, good health and general fitness. This board is em-

powered to dismiss all incompetent men on the spot, and require the keeper to employ others without delay. The whole work is under constant inspection. An officer of the revenue marine is the chief inspector, and assigns from his office in New York an assistant inspector to every district. The stations are visited frequently, and the men examined in the exercises of the apparatus drill, and obliged to give verbal reasons for every step in their operations. They are trained with their life-boats in the surf, in the use of the life-dress, in saving drowning persons by swimming to their relief, in the methods of restoring the partially drowned and in signalling. Everything in and about the stations moves with military precision. When a wreck is attended with loss of life, a rigid examination follows to see if any of the men have been guilty of misconduct or neglect of duty. The keepers are empowered to protect the interests of the government from smuggling, and they guard all property that comes ashore from a wreck until its rightful owner appears. They are charged with the care and order of the stations and the boats and apparatus; and they must keep accurate accounts of all receipts and expenditures, journalize all transactions, and maintain all necessary correspondence with superior officers. Thus it appears they must possess a certain amount of education and high integrity, as well as surfmanship, intrepidity and commanding qualities. They are paid seven hundred dollars each per annum. The crews receive fifty dollars per month during the active season, which upon the sea-coast is from September 1st to May 1st, and upon the lakes from the opening to the close of navigation, or from about May 1st to December 15th.

When the inmates of a station are notified by the patrolman that a ship is ashore, the keeper must determine instantly whether the condition of the sea will admit of the launching of the life-boat. Upon the Atlantic coast, much more frequently than elsewhere, the sea is too heavy in a winter storm for the use of the boat, and resort is had to the life-saving ordnance. The process of throwing a temporary suspension bridge from the land to the wreck, first sug-



gested by Lieutenant Bell, of the royal artillery, in 1791, and matured and carried into practical effect by Captain Manby, of the royal navy, has been greatly improved during the last few years. The first gun in use was of cast-iron, weighing two hundred and eighty-eight pounds, and throwing a spherical ball with line attached, its extreme range being four hundred and twenty-one yards. This gave place to the Parrott gun, weighing two hundred and sixty-six pounds—a slight gain—with a maximum range of four

best in existence. It was the result of experiments in 1878, Lieutenant D. A. Lyle, of the Ordnance Department at Springfield Mass., having been detailed, by request of the superintendent of the service, to assist Captain Merryman in solving the problem of the extension of the shot-line and a reduction in the weight of the gun. The projectile is fired over the wreck carrying with it a light line, by means of which the people on the vessel haul on board a strong hawser forming a bridge, over which they may



*C. H. Valentine*

hundred and seventy-three yards. The first ball fired in the United States to save life is preserved in the museum of the Life-Saving Service with tender care. It was at the wreck of the "Ayrshire," on Squan Beach, in 1850, and two hundred and one lives were saved by its means. The Lyle gun, of bronze, weighing one hundred and eighty-five pounds, with a range of six hundred and ninety-five yards, or nearly half a mile, afterwards superseded all others, and was universally conceded to be the

escape to the shore by means of the "breeches buoy," or by the life-car, which will carry several persons at once.

CAPTAIN CHARLES H. VALENTINE is the son of George Valentine and his wife, Katy Morris, who resided at Long Branch. He was born in 1825, at Long Branch, and spent his youth on a farm owned by Major Henry Wardell. At the early age of eleven years he went aboard a fishing-smack as cook, and at the ex-





piration of the second year was engaged as a full hand. On returning to Long Branch, at the end of his cruise, he engaged in fishing both by hand and net, and this business proving both attractive and profitable, he has followed it for thirty-five consecutive years, having provided for the purpose various boats and other equipments. He enjoys the distinction of being the first pound fisher on the coast. Captain Valentine has been for twenty years con-

and Ann Woolley. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and identified with Long Branch Lodge, No. 78, of that order. He is, in his religious preferences, a Methodist, and both a member and trustee of the North Long Branch Methodist Episcopal Church.

EDWIN WOOLLEY.—John Woolley, the progenitor of the family in Monmouth County, emigrated from England about the year 1660,



*Edwin Woolley*

needed with the Life-Saving Service, and during half of this period had charge of Station No. 4. Many eventful incidents occurred while filling this responsible office, his courage and judgment on these occasions proving the efficiency and value of the man and his services. This was especially remarked during one of the severest storms on record, in 1881. He landed the first woman ever brought safely to the coast by the breeches buoy. The captain was, in 1855, married to Armenia, daughter of Tucker

and married Marey, daughter of Thomas Potter. To this union were born four children,—Ruth, (who married John Tucker, of New Bedford, Mass.), John, Thomas and William. William, the third son, in his earlier days engaged in whaling, at that time very profitable, and being successful, accumulated a considerable sum of money. James Woolley, son of William Woolley, and grandson of the first John, the emigrant, had five sons,—John W., Amos, Anthony, William and Jesse. John W., the grandfather of



Edwin Woolley, had but two sons,—John and Josiah. The former John had also two sons, Anthony and Edwin, the subject of this biography, of whom Anthony died at the early age of sixteen years. Edwin was born on the 10th of October, 1830, on the homestead, which has since been his home. He improved such opportunities of education as were offered at the public school, and early began the routine of farm-labor, to which he has since been accustomed. During this period, however, the monotonous round of duty was somewhat varied by the vocation of a teacher. In 1853 he inherited the homestead farm, made doubly valuable to him as the home of the family for six generations. Mr. Woolley was, in 1852, married to Mary Jane, daughter of David Morton, of Ocean township. Their only child is Laura (Mrs. Charles Worth). He was again married, in 1857, to Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Robert Havens, of New York, whose children are John Warren, William F., Ella, Marietta, Charles A. and Eunice. Mr. Woolley is a Republican in politics, and though indifferent to honors of a public character, has, from his interest in the cause of education, been induced to accept the position of school trustee of the township. He is both a member and trustee of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Long Branch, as also trustee of the Centreville Methodist Episcopal Church and superintendent for many years of its Sunday-school.

**SAMUEL W. HENDRICKSON.**—Samuel Hendrickson, grandfather of Samuel W., the subject of this biographical sketch, was a resident of Cream Ridge, in Upper Freehold township. To his wife, formerly Miss Alice Wikoff, were born children,—Peter; Rebecca, wife of Samuel Potter; Tobias; Samuel; Alice, wife of William G. Hendrickson; and Garret S. The last named of this number was born May 25, 1806, at Cream Ridge, where he grew to manhood, and from whence he removed, in 1835, to Ocean township, having married, at Deal, on the 25th of December, 1830, Hannah Wikoff, daughter of Richard and Hannah White Wikoff, who were married in 1791. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hendrickson are Richard, born in 1831; Samuel W., born May 4, 1834; Clem-

ence E., in 1837; Harriet, in 1839; William H., in 1841; Julia, in 1846; Alice, in 1849; Peter, in 1851; and Harriet, in 1853. The death of Mr. Hendrickson occurred on the 5th of May, 1857, and that of his wife on the 25th of May, 1882. Their son, Samuel W., a native of Shrewsbury township, in 1835, when yet in his infancy, removed to Ocean township, where he grew to man's estate. He became a pupil of the district school at Deal, and later of the Ocean Institute, at Eatontown, after which his time was given exclusively to the farm, the management of which he assumed in consequence of his father's feeble health. He remained thus employed until 1867, when the property, having been meanwhile sold, passed into other hands. Mr. Hendrickson was, on the 13th of November, 1867, married to Josephine, daughter of Josiah H. and Ann Kingsland, of New York City, and has children,—Cora Sherman, born June 10, 1869, whose death occurred September 12, 1878; Anna Howland, born July 1, 1871; Raymond Wikoff, whose birth occurred March 13, 1882; and Alice Edna, born November 10, 1884. Mr. Hendrickson, since the sale of the paternal estate, has engaged in no active business other than the care of the property on which he resides, embracing twenty-three acres of land, on which he built a spacious dwelling in 1868 and his present imposing residence in 1883. A Republican in politics, his official aspirations have been confined to the postmastership of his neighborhood, which commission he still holds. Mr. Hendrickson is associated with the Reformed Church of Long Branch, of which both he and his wife are members, and in which he is a deacon. Mr. Hendrickson is justly proud of the fact that he resides upon ancestral land which has been for more than a century in the family.

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**DAVID M. HILDRETH.**—The most successful proprietor of any hotel upon the sea-beaches of the United States is D. M. Hildreth, of the West End Hotel, at Long Branch. To his hotel and the elegant society it annually attracts is due, in great part, the settlement of the southern part of Long Branch and the peerless residences there, to whose inhabitants the West End Hotel is the Casino.

A man as well recommended to the citizens of Mon-





mouth County as Mr. Hildreth, by long sojourn, enterprise and cordiality, requires a few lines of his antecedent history.

His ancestor came to Massachusetts in the earliest years of that colony, where, in 1640, Richard Hildreth, probably the emigrant, became a founder of the town of Chelmsford. From him the manly spreading tree of the American Hildreths is generally derived. In the fifth generation came Samuel Hildreth, who married Jerush Mendel, and their children were Daniel, Alvin, Samuel, Paul and Jane. Samuel, of this number, was born in 1795, in Chesterfield, N. H., and grew up in the nurture of our Revolutionary fathers. He married Mary, the daughter of David Morgan, who lived in Manchester, Mass., and their children were David Morgan, Samuel Mendel, James Alonzo, Thirza Jane, Ann Martha and Caroline, all of whom grew up to mature life. Our neighbor, David Morgan Hildreth, was born at Springfield, Windsor County, Vt., December 28, 1821. He was fifty-two years old when he acquired hotel interests at Long Branch.

At three years of age he removed with his parents to Salem, Mass., and at eleven, to Lynn, Mass., where he remained till the age of twenty-four, attending the Lynn Academy until sixteen years of age, when he began to earn his own living, and in 1845, soon after becoming a man, he was one of the proprietors of the Veranda Hotel, New Orleans, with Mr. E. R. Mudge, and this association lasted five years, when Mr. Hildreth and O. E. Hall opened the mammoth hotel of the South, and, indeed, of the whole country, the St. Charles, at New Orleans. There was the centre of the power, fashion and multiform life of the Southern States, in all the episodes and dramas of steam-shipping, internal navigation, cotton and sugar-planting, banking, the imperial period of American slavery, filibustering, the gold-fever, carnival festivity, the outbreak of the great Rebellion and the capture of the city. The St. Charles Hotel, with its massive stories and classical portico, rose above the Crescent City like a palace. For twelve years Mr. Hildreth controlled this house, and was for a part of the time proprietor of the rival establishment, the St. Louis Hotel, which was afterward the Capitol of Louisiana.

Mr. Hildreth and his partner bought the St. Louis Hotel; their business was one of the best in the country until the civil war had affected New Orleans generally. Mr. Hildreth sold out his New Orleans interest, and went with his family to Europe.

After spending two years in Europe, Mr. Hildreth returned in 1864, and bought a half-interest in the New York Hotel, on Broadway, from Hiram Cranstont; he did not dispose of his New Orleans interests

until 1865. The New York Hotel afforded a remarkable opportunity to see the public events in the North at the close of the war, the assemblage of many of the exiled or broken leaders of the Confederate States, and here Mr. Hildreth became sole proprietor from 1867 to 1871.

The circumstances of Mr. Hildreth's settling at Long Branch are interesting enough to give in a history of Monmouth County. The West End Hotel was originally called the Stetson House, and was built by the Astor House Hotel Company in 1867; it was built at a time of high prices and speculative excitement, was unsuccessful with its original proprietors, and one of its mortgages was foreclosed by Mr. Presbury, of Baltimore and Washington, in 1870. This gentleman, so long identified with Long Branch, had been the financial partner of Willard's Hotel, at Washington, during the whole period of the civil war and afterward. He was induced to shoulder the Long Branch property by two of his business associates, Messrs. Gardner and Sykes; the former of these married the daughter of Peter Gilsey, of New York, and had no further desire for hotel life. Mr. Sykes' health was not good, and Mr. Presbury seriously thought of getting rid of the property. In this emergency he sent Judge Robert Gilmore, of Baltimore, to see Mr. Hildreth, and invite him to become his partner. Mr. Hildreth had never seriously considered summer hotel keeping; there were, indeed, but few important summer houses in the country.

Immediately following the civil war he went, however, to Long Branch for the second time in his life, and Mr. Presbury was emphatic that he should make a proposition of some kind. To Mr. Hildreth's astonishment he closed at once with an offer; Mr. Hildreth assumed one-half the mortgage on the hotel, which had been reduced to two hundred and ten thousand dollars. This agreement was made at the beginning of spring in 1873. Up to this time the West End Hotel had known but a single prosperous season. For nine years Presbury and Hildreth carried on the property, and in 1882, Mr. Hildreth bought Mr. Presbury's interest. The growth of the hotel has been as steady as that of the city of New York; to a considerable extent it has been the summer capital of the United States, as well as the financial centre in the summer, with its brokers' offices, extensive telegraph connections, messenger dispatch, post-office and convenient railway station. Here several of our Presidents, as Grant, Garfield and Arthur, have whiled away their happiest hours. General Garfield, several years before his death at Long Branch, could be seen playing billiards in the West End Hotel.

Assisted by his sons, the proprietor has been the





*Wm. H. H. H.*





agreeable magistrate of the house, and the successive additions to the property continued in some cases through the dullest years to show its attractiveness. There were originally about fifteen acres in the hotel tract; the first addition was an extensive laundry, and the bachelors' quarters were built in 1875. The next spring hot and cold water baths were opened on the sea-front; the working department of the house was steadily developed, and it may be said, as an instance of the training obtained in this hotel, that one of the clerks, who consented in an emergency to take the steward's place, has been employed by the Windsor Hotel, New York, during the present year at a salary of six thousand dollars.

The beautiful cottages fronting the house were built in 1880, at which time six acres of ground were added to the tract, at the price of fifty thousand dollars. There are now from twenty to twenty-one acres in the West End area and grounds. In 1881 a line of stores and a post-office were put up. In 1884 the stabling was greatly enlarged, and in 1885 additional cottages have been erected.

The West End Hotel presented a remarkable scene during the autumn when General Garfield was lying near at hand upon the bed of death. The newspaper press of all the United States, desirous of being accommodated, came to the West End Hotel, and Mr. Hildreth consented to keep the house open and to take care of the correspondents and their families. There were more than one hundred of these correspondents at the hotel during that long vigil. There are accommodations at the West End for one thousand persons, and the hotel has lodged as many as one thousand and thirty-nine in a single night. In the season it keeps four hundred and fifty employes, of whom nearly two hundred are waiters. The expenditures of the establishment sometimes reach two hundred thousand dollars in a season.

Mr. Presbury, long Mr. Hildreth's partner, died in 1883. While conducting this hotel, Mr. Hildreth has held several useful and honorary positions in general life, and was long the president of the Urbana Wine Company, and is a director of the Farragut Fire Insurance Company. During most of his life, Mr. Hildreth was a Whig. His intelligence on personal and public events qualifies him for the various ranges of society he entertains. He has a farm at Flushing, Long Island, and a winter residence in New York City. In 1840 he married Elizabeth P. Washburn, and their children were Charles Allen and Sallie Hildreth (the latter deceased). In 1853 he married Annie L., daughter of Colonel S. H. Mudge, of New Orleans, and their surviving children are Walter E., David M., Jr., Alexander M., Philip R. and Minnie. Mr. Hildreth frequently makes excursions to Europe. He is a little over six feet high, and now, at the age of sixty-four, can laugh as heartily, listen as attentively and talk as impressively as any of the lads from town or country.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### WALL TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Wall is situated in the southeast corner of Monmouth County, having for its eastern boundary the Atlantic Ocean and for its southern, the county of Ocean. On the west it is bounded by the township of Howell, and on the north by the townships of Atlantic, Shrewsbury and Neptune. Its principal streams are Shark River, which marks its northern boundary against Shrewsbury and Neptune townships, and Manasquan River, which is a part of its southern boundary against Ocean County. The sea-shore railway line, which extends southwardly from Sandy Hook along the coast of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, passes through Wall township on its entire ocean-front, from Shark to Manasquan River. Another line is that of the Farmingdale and Squam Village Railroad (now operated by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as a part of its united lines). This road enters Wall from Howell township, and intersects the sea-shore line at Squam village. The population of this township, by the United States census of 1880, was three thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, but has increased largely since that enumeration.

Wall township (so named in honor of the Hon. Garret D. Wall) was erected from a part of the territory of Howell, by an act passed in 1851. The description is as follows:

"All that part of the township of Howell lying within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at the sea or ocean in the middle of Shark River Inlet, and from thence running up the middle of the main stream thereof, along its general windings, to a place called and known by the name of the Horse Pond, to a certain pine-tree standing by the edge of the brook in said Horse Pond lettered I. P., said to be the beginning of a tract of land returned to Joseph Potter, deceased; thence westerly along the line between the townships of Howell and Atlantic, sixty-one chains; thence southerly on a straight line to the mouth of Squamum Brook, where it empties into Manasquan River on the south side thereof; thence from the mouth of the aforesaid Squamum Brook, south three degrees and thirty minutes east, to the north line of Ocean County; thence northerly along



said line to Manasquan River, near old Squan Bridge; thence down the middle of said river to the ocean at Manasquan Inlet; thence northerly along the ocean to the beginning."

Following is a list of chosen freeholders of Wall township from its formation to the present time:

1851-59. Thomas H. Lafetra.  
1860. William H. Craig.  
1861-62. Thomas H. Lafetra.  
1863-69. John E. Tilton.  
1870-76. Samuel M. Gifford.  
1877-84. Theodore Field.

As early as 1685 a large area of lands, now of Wall township, bordering the south shore of Wreck Pond, the sea-shore from Wreck Pond southward to the Manasquan and up the north side of the Manasquan nearly to the present site of the Long Bridge, was purchased from the Indians, and afterwards patented from the proprietors by a company formed for the purpose, and composed of men who had previously located lands at Shrewsbury and Middletown, then called the "two towns of Navesink." The official document issued by the Governor of the province of East New Jersey, granting permission to these land speculators to make the purchases from the Indians, is as follows:

"By the Governour:

"To all Persons to whom these presents shall come and whom the premises do or may concern: Know Ye, That I have Licensed, authorized and empowered, and by these Presents doe license, authorize and empower Richard Hartshorne, John Hance, Judah Allen, Eliakim Wardell, Tobias Hanson, Ephraim Allen, John Woolley, William Woolley, Remembrance Lippincott, William Lawrence, John Williams and Edmund Lafetra, all of Neversinks, in the county of Monmouth, to purchase the native or Indian right to such a quantity of land as they shall see meet, and lying and being at a place called by the Indians Manasquan, provided they exceed not the quantity of two thousand five hundred acres, and that the said purchase-deed be to and in the name of the Lords Proprietors of this Province, in order that Patents may be made thereof to the said respective persons of such parts and pareells thereof as may answer

an agreement this day made between them and the Lords Proprietors.

"Given under the seal of the said Province this ninth day of July, Anno DM. 1685."

Under this authority the Indian right and title was purchased, but prior to that purchase some patents to these lands had been granted.

A tier of lots, that in old records were called "Squan Lotts," were laid out along the river and ocean-front, running inland sixty chains, and varying in width on the river and sea.

In the division of these lands William Lawrence received patents for four traets of land, bearing date January 19, 1692. The northernmost traet of this company's land was taken by him in two lots, described as follows: "All that traet of land situate on the north side of Manasquan River, in the bounds of Shrewsbury aforesaid, coasting south west and north east, in breadth twelve chains, and in length, south east and north west, on one side, sixty chains, which, with allowance, is to remain for sixty acres, bounded on the south west with land formerly of Remembrance Lippincott, on the south east with the sea, on the north west with the highway and on the north east with the plain."

The traet below described lies to the north of the one given above, and is irregular in form, viz.: "And also all that traet lying and adjoining to the above-mentioned traet, containing forty acres, beginning at y<sup>e</sup> northeast corner of y<sup>e</sup> land of John Lawrence by the sea, and running northwest six and twenty chains, thence northeast eleven chains to y<sup>e</sup> Rack (Wreck) Pond; thence east-southeast and half a point more easterly, as y<sup>e</sup> pond lyes, twenty-four chains to y<sup>e</sup> sea, and following y<sup>e</sup> sea to where it began; the which two traets of land were conveyed to him, the said John Lawrence, by two certain deeds of conveyance from his father, William Lawrence (deceased), relation to them severally being had, as may more fully appear." The deeds from William Lawrence to John, his son, bear date December 22, 1701. The date of patents, with sea or river-front, and also the number of acres, are given as they lie adjoining each other south from William Lawrence's two traets.

The patent of Remembrance Lippincott, next





south of Lawrence, bears date February 20, 1685. It is twelve chains wide on the front and contains sixty acres.

Tobias Hanson's patent is dated November 4, 1687. The land lies south of Lippincott's lot and is twelve chains in front and contains sixty acres.

John Hance's tract, next south, was twenty-four chains on the front and contained one hundred and twenty acres. The patent for this tract is dated November 4, 1687. This property was afterwards conveyed to John Morton, who conveyed it to Thomas Sherman, and is a part of the Sea Girt property.

The tract next below was twelve chains in width and contained sixty acres. This lot belonged to William Lawrence, and was embraced in the patent of 1692.

Richard Hartshorne's land was next south of Lawrence's and was twenty-four chains in front and contained one hundred and twenty acres. This patent bears date January 18, 1685.

Adjoining Hartshorne was the land of Judah Allen, also twenty-four chains on the front and containing one hundred and twenty acres. This tract was patented February 16, 1685.

Next south was a tract patented by Joseph West in right of Eliakim Wardell, patent dated July 13, 1686; six chains on the front and containing thirty acres.

Joseph Lawrence, son of William Lawrence, patented, October 7, 1695, in right of William Woolley, a lot six chains on the front, containing thirty acres. William Woolley sold his right to Joseph Lawrence, September 23, 1691.

John Williams, one of the company, sold his right, September 26, 1694, to John West, who received his patent dated October 7, 1695. This land lay south of Joseph Lawrence. It was six chains on the front and contained thirty acres.

Next south, a patent for sixty acres of land, twelve chains on the front, was granted March 22, 1687, to Frances Lafetra, widow of Edmund Lafetra. January 25, 1688, "Frances Lafetra, late wife of Edmund Lafetra, Dec<sup>d</sup>., of Shrewsbury," conveyed the property "to John West, her son, of Shrewsbury." This tract was on the point from the river to the sea, as the boundaries indicate.

Ephraim Allen's tract lay next south. It was patented August 15, 1686, and contained sixty acres; twelve chains on the front.

A tract of thirty acres, six chains on the front, next south, was conveyed to John Hance, and embraced in his patent of November 4, 1687. Next was a tract of thirty acres, six chains on the front, which was embraced in Joseph West's patent of July 13, 1686.

William Lawrence's patent of January 19, 1692, embraced the tract of land next west, containing one hundred and eighty acres, being thirty-six chains on the river-front. This tract he afterwards conveyed to his two sons, Joseph (the east half) and John (the west half). The latter was conveyed to Thomas Ellison, Richard Longstreet and Samuel Osborne.

The last and most westerly tract, lying on Manasquan River, and embraced in Richard Hartshorne's patent of January 18, 1685, was forty-two chains on the river-front and contained two hundred and ten acres.

April 6, 1692, Edward Woolley conveyed to John Leonard, of Shrewsbury, "all that tract of upland and meadow situate, lying and being in ye county of Monmouth, lying on ye north side of Manasquan River, adjoining lands of John Hants [Hance] on the south, Edmund Lafetra on the north, by the river on the south-east, and northwest by the highway." This tract, containing sixty acres, was probably one that was patented to John Woolley, who was one of the company, though his name does not appear in the list of lots assigned.

In 1763 the freeholders of the county changed the route of a road then called the "Old Squan road," which ran from Long Branch to the Manasquan. On the 28th of January, 1768, a petition for a road from Tom's River Bridge to the Manasquan was granted by the freeholders, and the road was built. There is nothing to show that the "Old Squan Bridge" over the Manasquan was in existence before that date, and it was doubtless built soon afterwards, to connect the roads above mentioned. It was in use during the Revolution, and a bridge has been maintained there from that time. A school-house was erected near the bridge about 1825. On June 28, 1857, the citizens met at the school-



house and organized a Free Church and elected trustees for the purpose of erecting a house of worship. A lot was purchased of William Gifford and a house built, which is still used. Services were held monthly by the Methodist Protestants, and the church is now under the charge of the Rev. J. K. Freed.

Allenwood is a station on the railroad near the Old Squan Bridge. A post-office was established there several years ago, with David Allen as postmaster. He was succeeded in 1883 by William Lafetra, who now holds the office.

The "Long Bridge" over the Manasquan was originally built about 1816, and the first mail-route through this section passed over it. It was rebuilt about 1830. The first post-office in this part of the present township was established at this place February 25, 1819. Samuel F. Allen was the postmaster. The Osbornes were large owners of land in this section.

MANASQUAN is the most important village of Wall township, located in the southeast corner, near the Manasquan River and the sea, and at the junction of the sea-coast line of railway with the road running thence to Farmingdale, Freehold and Jamesburg.

In the year 1815 the site of the present village of Manasquan was heavily timbered, except a small clearing, where the Osborne House now stands. Here, soon afterwards, a tavern-house was built, and in 1818 the mail-route was established from Freehold to Tuckerton, by way of what is now Manasquan. Timothy J. Bloomfield, who had previously kept a store farther inland, came to this tavern, and was keeping it in 1825. By that time a few dwellings and other buildings had clustered round the tavern, and the landlord, Bloomfield, named the settlement "Squan Village." In the same year Dr. John Morford settled at Squan as a physician, and remained there in practice until his death, in 1839.

The first store in the village was kept by Lewis Pearce, and in May, 1837, Osborne Curtis began the mercantile business on the corner where now is the store of Curtis & Conover.

In 1853 he was one of the firm of Brannin, Bailey & Co., at the same place. In 1878 the present building was erected. Another early merchant was Benjamin D. Pearce, previously a school-teacher, who opened a store here, in 1839, at the place where now is the store of Erickson & Wainwright. He also carried on a lumber business in a small way.

Dr. Robert Laird, in a communication having reference to the condition of this place in early years, says,—

"Within the recollection of the writer, Squan, as it is now called, was known as Crab Town, the name having its origin from an old man named Hays, who came from Freehold to the shore for fish, clams and crabs. When, once, his wagon was loaded with these commodities, some of the boys helped drink his Jersey lightning and upset his wagon, and covered the streets or roads with crabs, which circumstance caused every one to exclaim—Crab Town! This name was retained until it was changed to Squan village. At this time the village consisted of a public-house kept by Peter Bailey, a small store kept by Jacob Curtis, and three or four dwelling-houses,—the residences of Benjamin Pearce, Sr., William McKnight and the Curtis family. Elder John S. Newman, assisted by Matthias Barkalow and Taber Chadwick, of Red Bank, used to hold service in the old school-houses and at private residences. There were no post-offices. A mail-boy came once a week from Freehold to Tom's River, by way of Squan Bridge, and the venerable Samuel F. Allen was postmaster at that place."

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Squan, evidently referring to a large extent of country extending to the coast: "It is much frequented for sea-bathing, and comfortable accommodations are found at the farm-houses, of which there are several where boarders are received."

In 1830, or about that year, there were but thirty-six houses between Wreck Pond and what was then called New Squan Bridge (now Middle Bridge), this being about three and a half miles along the coast and river, and two and a half miles from the sea. About 1835 the people who owned the land between what is now the Middle Bridge and Wreck Pond were Abram Osborne, Hendrick Longstreet, Squire Derriek Longstreet, Derriek Longstreet, Jr., Samuel Longstreet, David Curtis, James Morris, Benjamin Pearce, John Longstreet (who owned where Manasquan village now is and New-





berry's Pond), William Newberry, Thomas Sherman and William Parmeter.

The Osborne House was built on the site of the old Bloomfield tavern by Forman Osborne, and was opened in July, 1867, by his son, Frank Osborne. It is now kept by T. Z. Zimmerman.

The Hunsinger House was built in 1881, and is now kept by D. L. Hunsinger.

About 1840 a school-house was built (about a hundred yards from the present one), which was used until the present two-story brick building was completed, in 1881, at a cost of six thousand dollars.

The Independent Methodists had been holding religious worship in private dwellings and in school-houses in this neighborhood for several years prior to 1842. On the 19th of February in that year several of the congregation met at the house of Asher Pearce, near the store of Lawrence Newberry, and elected the following-named trustees of Manasquan Church: Abram Osborne, Lawrence Newberry and Ebenezer Allen. The society was incorporated June 18th following. There was no church edifice in the village at this time, but in the same year the citizens united in erecting the Free Church, on the high ground in the northwest part of the village. In this the Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists held meetings. The ground was donated by Nesbit Mount, and was deeded to the trustees of the Independent Methodist Church. Matthias Barrielo, John S. Newman, Ralph Thomson, Taber Chadwick, Clark Newman and John Reynolds were preachers to this congregation from 1835 to 1850, at which time this denomination merged into the Methodist Protestant Church, and conveyed the property to the trustees of that church, since which time the following ministers have served them, viz.: Samuel Hill, E. D. Stultz, William B. Van Leer, Joshua Burch, J. W. Laughlin, E. D. Stultz, H. Bradford, A. J. Apgar, E. D. Stultz, and L. D. Stultz, who is the present pastor. The church building was remodeled in 1874.

In 1876 a large tract of land adjoining the Methodist Protestant Church was purchased and laid out as Atlantic Cemetery, which is the burial-ground of the village.

THE MANASQUAN BAPTIST CHURCH was the first one in the Trenton Association which was organized in the present century, and thus stands number four in age of the churches which have thus far come into that body, it having been constituted October 20, 1804, as the First Baptist Church of Howell,<sup>1</sup> which township then embraced the present territory of Wall. For a number of years there was but one person in the community who represented the Baptist faith, and that was Elizabeth Havens. She was a member of the Baptist Church at Hopewell. For ten years she heard but few sermons preached, and these were by Elder John Lafferty (or McLafferty) and Andrew Harpending. "In the summer of 1801 it pleased God to awaken Samuel and Amner Havens." Upon the solicitation of Mrs. Elizabeth Havens, and her step-son, Samuel Havens, who made a journey to Hightstown for the purpose of visiting Elder Peter Wilson, he was induced to come and hold a service in this neighborhood, and on the 9th day of December, 1801, he preached a sermon at the house of John Havens, Jr. Samuel Havens seems to have been the first person baptized; this took place in April, 1802. Soon after this, as appears from the church-book, "John Havens and Amner, his wife, and Sarah, wife of Samuel Havens, were also baptized." From this time Mr. Wilson visited them about once a month, and the Lord crowned his labors with success, until the number and situation called for the constitution of the church." The constituent members (thirty-seven in number) were Elizabeth Havens, John Havens, Sr., Richard Freeman, Mary Freeman, John Ha-

<sup>1</sup>The following is found in the county records at Freehold referring the election of the first trustees:

"The First Baptist Church in the township of Howell, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, met on Thursday, the 17th of December, agreeable to advertisement, at the house of John Havens, Senior, in said township, for the purpose of choosing Trustees for said church, at which time and place the following persons were unanimously chosen in trust of the temporalities of said church, whereunto we have sent our hand and seals the day and year above written. John Havens, Senior, David Lewis, John Davison, Samuel Havens, John Havens, William Brown and William Brand."



vens, Jr., Lydia Longstreet, Samuel Havens, Hannah Freeman, Eliza Havens, Polly Longstreet, Uriah Brown, Nelly Longstreet, Thomas Havens, Jane Havens, Joseph Vannote, Catharine Longstreet, Abraham Stout, Anner Havens, Ann Woolley, Lydia Hults, Elizabeth Emmons, Elizabeth Stout, Blessing Brand, Joel Brand, Ruth Brand, Sarah Poland, Silas A. Blackman, Jacob Havens, Lydia Havens, Catharine Brown, Sarah Havens, Ann Havens, Mary Truax, John Davidson, Sarah Davidson, Joanna Johnson, Elizabeth Havens.

The Rev. Peter Wilson, of Hightstown, and the Rev. William White, of Philadelphia, were present and assisted in the constitution of the church.

The first minister who labored in this field in a regular way was the Rev. William Bishop. He was born in England in 1749 or 1750; was ordained to the gospel ministry in his native land, and emigrated to this country in 1794. He first settled in the Lackawanna Valley, Luzerne County, Pa.; afterwards removed to Hopewell, N. J., from which place he came to settle with the Manasquan Church in 1807. He returned to Pennsylvania in 1812, and died near Abington, in that State, in the year 1816.

The Rev. John Cooper, then of Upper Freehold, commenced ministerial labor here, December 7, 1812, and served once a month some ten or eleven years. From 1823 to 1829 the Rev. John Bloomer was the pastor or stated supply. He came from New York State, and returned thither upon leaving Squan. August 22, 1830, the Rev. William Clark began to supply the church half the time, and continued one year. The Rev. David P. Purdon entered upon the pastorate May 1, 1834, and was ordained by the Revs. G. S. Webb and M. J. Rhcese, on the 19th of August following. Elder Boozer served the church eight or nine months after Mr. Purdon left, in 1841.

The next minister was the Rev. Charles Cox, Sr., who commenced his labors with this people June 21, 1842. Mr. Cox's services, as has been the case with most of the pastors of this church, were divided between Squan and Kettle Creek. A revival attended his ministry in both places, and during the winter of 1842-43 fifty-nine

persons were baptized into the fellowship of these churches,—forty-eight at Squan and eleven at Kettle Creek. After a pastorate of nearly two years, Mr. Cox went to Kingwood to take the oversight of the church there. The Rev. Allen J. Hires began to supply them the following Lord's Day. This he continued to do about five months, and was followed by the Rev. William F. Brown, in November of the same year (1844). He remained ten months. Next, the Rev. J. M. Carpenter spent a few months here as a transient supply.

The Rev. E. R. Hera became pastor in December, 1846, and continued with the church about two years. Quite a number became members of the church during Mr. Hera's ministry. For a few months in the year 1850 the church was supplied by John Hazlet, a licentiate of the Baptist Church at Keyport. In the spring of 1851 the Rev. William F. Brown removed here, and became pastor a second time. He left again in the latter part of the year 1853, and the church was without a pastor during a period of four years, till the Rev. J. Dayton Merrill was called to the pastorate, in December, 1857. He was a licentiate of the Flemington Baptist Church, and was ordained at Squan, January 19, 1858. He left the Squan Church the 1st of April, 1864, having been their pastor six years and a quarter. His successor was the Rev. Eli M. Lockwood, who took charge of the church on the 1st of May in the same year (1864), and was ordained as pastor of the Squan Church and supply for Kettle Creek on the 10th of August following. Mr. Lockwood had been a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist Church by the Rev. Alexander Folwell, of Athens, N. Y. He died August 13, 1866.

The church was destitute but three months, and then called the Rev. Samuel L. Cox, who accepted the call January 26, 1867. For a few months he spent a portion of his time with the little church at Eatontown, after which his labors were divided between Kettle Creek and Squan. This pastorate, however, lasted only about one year, owing to ill health in his family, which was supposed to be caused by the





sea air. He was at once succeeded by his father, the Rev. Charles Cox, who, after nearly twenty-four years' absence from the pastorate of this church, returned to it the second time at the close of the year 1867. He was succeeded in the pastorate, September 11, 1871, by the Rev. Theodore S. Snow, who remained until 1874, when he was succeeded by the Rev. E. M. Baker, whose successor is the present pastor, the Rev. D. S. Parmelee, who assumed the oversight of the church in 1877.

The first house of worship of this church was erected in 1808. This building was put up in the pines, on the road leading from Squan village to Burrsville, and on the south side of Manasquan River, in what is now Ocean County. It was a plain wooden structure, and answered the purpose for which it was erected till the church moved the location to the north side of the river, in 1842. This year marked an era in the community, as it was then that the first meeting-house was built in or near Squan village. This was the "Free Meeting-House on the Hill," as it is called. Here the Baptist Church continued to worship in regular turn with other denominations till the dedication of the basement of their new church, in the month of January, 1869. The main audience-room of the newly-finished house was entered January 19, 1870. The building is well adapted to the wants of the congregation, is pleasantly located, and cost four thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars.

The Manasquan Church united with the Philadelphia Baptist Association in 1805. It remained a member of that body ten years, or until 1815, when it withdrew and became connected with what was then known as the New Jersey Baptist Association (organized in 1811). It continued in this relation until 1828, when it went out with several other churches to form the Central New Jersey Baptist Association, in which connection it remained till 1865, when it again withdrew to help form what is now known as *The Trenton Baptist Association*. The church has generally received aid from the New Jersey Baptist State Convention to assist in the support of the ministry among them:

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT MANASQUAN dates back in its organization less than forty years, though Presbyterian worship was held in this vicinity before the Revolutionary War. When the Rev. Charles McKnight was serving at Shrewsbury, one of his preaching-places was at the locality known as Squan. It was nearly a hundred years later that religious services were first regularly held at the place. In 1842 a free house of worship was erected. In April, 1848, the Presbytery organized a church at this place, and on the 29th of June, 1848, the corner-stone of a Presbyterian Church, 36 x 56 feet in size, was laid. An address was delivered by the Rev. Dr. McLean. The Rev. Morse Rowell, who was pastor at Manchester, held occasional services at this place, and in 1850 he was called to the pastorate of the church and was installed June 13, 1850. He resigned May 5, 1856. The Revs. H. R. Avery and S. A. Freeman filled the pulpit as stated supplies until November 4, 1868, when the Rev. Charles F. Worrell was called and settled, but was not installed until January 31, 1872. He remained until 1881, when ill health compelled his resignation. A call was extended in March, 1881, to the Rev. F. F. Brown, D.D., of Ann Arbor, Mich., which he accepted, and is still the pastor of this church.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Worrell, repairs and improvements were made upon the church edifice to the amount of three thousand dollars.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH of Manasquan dates back several years prior to 1857, during which time the Methodists of the locality had held services in the Free Church. On the 30th of July in that year they laid the corner-stone of a church edifice, which was completed and dedicated in the spring following. This building was used until its destruction by fire, March 27, 1869. A new church, thirty-six by fifty-six feet in size, was then erected at a cost of five thousand dollars, and was dedicated December 31, 1869.

The pastors of this church have been B. C. Sharp, 1857-59; William C. Chattin, 1860-61; J. Stiles, 1862-63; J. L. Roe, 1864-65; R. B.



Suteliffe, 1869-70; C. F. Downs, 1874-75; J. Garrison, 1876-77; J. Wagge, 1878-80; T. C. Carman, 1881-83.

The first newspaper published in Manasquan was *The Seaside*, a tri-weekly, four-column paper, twelve by sixteen inches in size. The first number was issued June 14, 1877, and it was continued until September 8th next following, when its publication was suspended until June 1, 1878, when it reappeared as a weekly paper, enlarged to five columns, twelve by twenty inches in size. Since then it has been enlarged several times, the last enlargement being made January 1, 1883, at which time the name was changed to *The Manasquan Seaside*. At the commencement of this paper Enoch Perrine was its editor, and E. S. V. Stultz proprietor and publisher, which continued until the death of the tri-weekly. Since its change to a weekly issue it has been entirely under the management of E. S. V. Stultz.

*The Coast Democrat* was first issued in 1881 as the *South Amboy Citizen*. In August, 1884, it was moved to Manasquan under the present name, and is issued from the office, corner of Main and Broad Streets, in Errickson & Wainwright's building. It is an eight-column paper, Democratic in politics, edited by J. W. Laughlin.

The post-office of Manasquan was established February 15, 1819, with Samuel F. Allen as postmaster, the office being first located at Manasquan Bridge, which was on the mail-route established by act of Congress April 20, 1818, which route was from Freehold, by Squankum, Manasquan, Tom's River, Cedar-Creek and Manahawkin, to Tuckerton, where an office had been established twenty years before,—January 1, 1798.

From Manasquan Bridge the office was removed to the Union Landing, thence again to the Bridge, and from there, about 1840, it was removed to Squan village, a mail-route having then been established from Squan to Red Bank. Prior to this time the office had been variously held, after S. F. Allen, by Conover Osborne and Allen Osborne. Upon its removal to Squan,

Osborne Curtis was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by Eugene Hyde, David Riddle and William S. Moore, the present postmaster, who has held the office since 1871.

The first physician of Manasquan was Dr. John Morford, a native of the county, who settled here in the year 1825, and who remained in practice until his death, in 1839. A more extended notice of him has been given in the history of the Monmouth Medical Society. Dr. Robert Laird, a native of Freehold, settled near Squan in December, 1838, and is still in practice. Until 1854 he was the only physician in many miles around this place. His son, Charles A. Laird, studied with his father. He commenced practice in 1871 and died in 1876. Dr. Peter D. Knieskern settled at Manchester in 1841, and at Squan village in 1846. He remained in practice until 1854, when he removed to Shark River, where he died September 12, 1871, aged seventy-four years. The Rev. Dr. Samuel Lockwood, in a sermon delivered upon the occasion of his death, makes mention of Dr. Knieskern's career before coming to this county, as follows:

"In 1836 the great State of New York projected the gorgeous enterprise of a great Natural History of the State; the plan took in geology, mineralogy, agriculture, botany and zoology, and, so far as finished, it now occupies twenty-two massive imperial volumes. The botany was assigned to Professor John Torrey, then the greatest light on that subject on this continent. Dr. Torrey at once secured as co-workers in the actual field, Dr. Knieskern, now deceased, and another young man, Professor O. R. Willis, Ph.D., the originator of the Freehold Institute. Professor Torrey's work in the department assigned him was given to the State in two massive volumes, entitled the 'Botany of the State of New York.' In the preface to the first volume Dr. Torrey makes his acknowledgements of indebtedness, and first in this respect is placed the name of Peter D. Knieskern, M.D. Even the name of the present Professor Gray, who is now the acknowledged light in America on botanical science, is made to follow that of Dr. Knieskern in the matter of services rendered in the New York survey. In 1842, Dr. Knieskern published a catalogue of the plants of Oneida County, N. Y., pronounced by Professor Torrey to be full and accurate. And in the conduct of the geological survey of our own State of New Jersey, Dr. Knieskern published a catalogue of the indigenous plants of Monmouth County, and a part of Ocean. The doctor was a





member of several of the learned societies, among which might be mentioned the New York Lyceum of Natural History, and the Academy of the Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. As a botanist he greatly excelled, his skill making him an authority. His name frequently occurs in botanical works. But the Doctor was also a general naturalist, and to him is due not a little of discovery in the paleontology of Monmouth County."

Dr. A. A. Higgins, a native of Princeton, located in Freehold in 1853; remained a year, and in November, 1854, settled in Squan Village, where he is still in practice. Since that time several physicians have come and gone and others are still here in practice.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF MANASQUAN was chartered in the spring of 1883, and organized June 11th in that year, with a capital stock of \$50,000. A banking-office of brick was erected on Main Street, in which business was opened November 19, 1883.

The following are the officers of the bank: President, C. J. Parker; Cashier, John Terhune; Directors, C. J. Parker, E. C. Erickson, E. S. Van Leer, J. W. Borden, Howard Osborne, James L. Allgor, Sidney Herbert.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 88, I. O. of O. F., was chartered February 1, 1849, with the following-named persons as officers: John J. Irons, N. G.; Thomas P. Barkalow, V. G.; William I. James, Sec., and James D. Cornelius, Treas. Meetings were held in different places until after the completion of Masonic Hall, in 1878, since which the lodge has occupied a room in that building. The present Noble Grand is Edgar Herbert; Secretary, E. P. Tilton. The lodge has now a membership of about eighty.

Wall Lodge, No. 73, F. and A. M., was chartered January 18, 1866, with the following-named officers: A. A. Higgins, W. M.; David L. Hunsinger, Sen. Warden; Lewis P. Brown, Jun. Warden. The lodge has now a membership of seventy-seven. F. P. Philbrick, W. M.; S. W. Newberry, Sec.

In 1878 the Curtis and Conover Block was erected, the third story of which was fitted as a Masonic Hall. It was dedicated as such Octo-

ber 16th in that year, and has since been used for meetings of the lodge.

Goodwin Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., was chartered in 1881. It has now about forty-five members. F. P. Philbrick is M. E. H. P., and A. A. Higgins, Secretary. Meetings are held in Masonic Hall.

Vredenburg Post, No. 47, G. A. R., was instituted July 26, 1880, with twenty members. Meetings were first held in Zimmerman's Hall; at present in Erickson & Wainwright's Hall. The post has now thirty-eight members. The officers are: Commander, William S. Moore; S. V. C., John S. Williams; J. V. C., David N. Curtis; Quartermaster, David W. Morton; Officer of the Day, Abel H. Lovett; Chaplain, Joseph Snyder; Officer of the Guard, Charles Boker; Delegate to the Encampment, David N. Curtis; Alternate, Frank Getsinger.

The Loyal Ladies' League was chartered January 24, 1882, with twelve members. Its meetings are held in the room of Vredenburg Post. The present membership is twenty. The officers are: Phebe Truax, President; C. L. Moore, S. V.; Lavinia Hardy, J. V.; Jennie Tomlinson, Sec.; Rebecca Curtis, Treas.; Julia Stevens, Chaplain.

Ocean View Lodge, I. O. of G. T., was instituted January 15, 1874, with forty members. It is not now in existence.

Pearl Lodge, No. 51, K. of P., was instituted October 20, 1883. The officers are: Monroe Wyckoff, Chancellor Commander; T. A. Zimmerman, Vice-Chancellor; Dr. A. P. Yelvington, Keeper of Records and Seals.

In May, 1872, N. Wyckoff Morris purchased thirty acres of land south of and adjoining Manasquan village, and extending to Manasquan River. This tract was laid out into lots and named Sea View. It is practically an addition to Manasquan village, and is already well built up.

The Union Landing is at a point about two miles below Manasquan village. At this place William Brown began the building of vessels in 1808. He remained there a few years, and then removed to Navesink. He was succeeded at the Landing by Morris Freeman,



who continued until about 1837. About 1850, Captain James H. Green erected a boarding-house at the place, and Captain John M. Brown, some years later, built the Union. Captain Brown is a son of William Brown, who began business at the landing in 1808. He was in the employ of the Coast Wrecking Company from 1829 to 1873, and later agent for the district from Sandy Hook to Great Egg Harbor. The post-office was here for a time before its removal to Squan village, in 1840.

THE BRIELLE LAND ASSOCIATION was incorporated July 7, 1881, with a capital stock of fifteen thousand dollars. The incorporators (fourteen in number) were gentlemen from Jersey City and Newark. The first purchase was about one hundred and fifty acres of land lying southeast of Manasquan village. The place (which is called Brielle) is under the charge of Moses K. Killam, of Jersey City. It contains the Carteret Arms Hotel and three cottages.

SEA GIRT is a summer resort situated on the shore, directly east of Manasquan village, with an ocean frontage two miles in length, extending a mile back to a gradual, but slightly undulating elevation, covering an area of five hundred acres of forest, orchards and fields, with Newberry's Pond, or Stockton Lake, forming the northern and the Manasquan River its southern boundary.

For many years prior to 1853 the shore at what is now called Sea Girt was the place where the farmers and other inhabitants of this section met to celebrate their annual harvest home festivals. In May of the year named Commodore Robert F. Stockton purchased of Thomas Shearman<sup>1</sup> a tract of about two hundred and fifty acres of land, including this place, and he also purchased three other contiguous lots of about twelve acres each, one of which was described as "all that tract of salt meadow and island sedges lying southeast of land formerly of Samuel Osborne, and at the mouth of Manasquan River."

On the land purchased by Commodore Stockton, as above mentioned, he erected a very large

and commodious mansion-house for the use of himself and family and the entertainment of his numerous friends. This mansion, which, with its grounds, he named Sea Girt, forms the central part of the present hotel, wings, each one hundred feet in length, having been added. The property was sold by Commodore Stockton, July 9, 1866, to Paul and Stephen L. Thurlow, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., who also purchased other lands adjoining. On the 11th of July, 1871, Paul Thurlow sold his interest to Stephen Thurlow, who, on the 15th of February, 1875, conveyed the property to the Sea Girt Land Improvement Company, by whom it was laid out in lots, with wide streets and avenues. Crescent Park is a plat of twenty acres of ground, well wooded, situated south of the Beach House, fronting on the ocean beach, and its rear line being semicircular. The Sea Girt property is under the management of John S. Lucas.

SPRING LAKE is a popular summer resort, situated in the east part of the township, near the sea-shore. The land on which it is located was patented originally by Robert Hunter Morris about 1760. In 1832 a part of it belonged to Jeremiah Chandler, and was by him sold in that year to Samuel Emmons. It was at that time heavily wooded; many thousand cords of wood were cut off, after which it was sold (in 1838) to Abram Osborne. In 1875 the property belonged to Captain Forman Osborne and James Pearce, whose lands lay on both sides of Fresh Pond, now known as Spring Lake. In that year, John Reading, James Hunter and Paul Thurlow, of Philadelphia, purchased of Forman Osborne and James Pearce three hundred and fifty acres of land adjoining Wreck Pond, and running northerly about three-quarters of a mile, which they laid out and improved. Later, these gentlemen sold the property to John C. Lucas, who now owns it. The property is bounded by the ocean, Wreck Pond, or Sea Girt Inlet, and the highway from Manasquan to Long Branch. Spring Lake is a fresh-water pond, of which the overflow runs into Wreck Pond.

On the 12th of October, 1875, the Lake

<sup>1</sup> A part of this tract had been purchased by Thomas Shearman, Sr., of William Wilson in 1806.





House Company was incorporated, with a capital stock of seventy-five thousand dollars, for the purpose of constructing a sea-side boarding-house at Spring Lake. The incorporators were George, Maurice and Abraham Browning, of Camden; Edward Browning, James Hunter, Paul Thurlow, G. A. Nichols and J. G. Reading, of Philadelphia. In 1876 this company erected the Monmouth House, which was at that time the finest hotel on the coast. It is situated on a plat of seven acres, midway between Spring Lake and the ocean, and about two hundred yards from each. Other hotels and many fine cottages have since been erected there. Mrs. Matthew Baird, of Philadelphia, built several cottages at this place, which are kept as boarding-houses, under two managements, by the names Essex and Sussex.

A PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH building was erected at Spring Lake, on a lot donated for the purpose by Mrs. Matthew Baird, who also subscribed liberally towards the building of the church. Subscriptions to the amount of sixteen thousand dollars were obtained from other summer residents. The building was commenced in November, 1882, and was completed in the following spring. It is sixty by eighty feet in size, with a tower eighty feet in height. The bell, of fifteen hundred pounds weight, was the gift of George Griffiths, of Philadelphia. The audience-room has a capacity of seating five hundred persons. The church was dedicated July 17, 1883. The Rev. Matthew Newkirk, of Philadelphia, presided; the dedicatory sermon was preached by Professor John Dewitt, D.D.

THE SPRING LAKE EPISCOPAL CHURCH building was erected in the fall of 1880. These churches are used during the summer season, preaching being supplied by ministers visiting the place.

OCEAN BEACH is the name given to a very popular summer resort and town which lies on the south side of Shark River, extending along its shore from the ocean beach to and above the Shark River bridge.

In 1872 twenty-five gentlemen then having summer cottages at Ocean Grove, purchased, through A. Bitner, Jr., several tracts of land

embracing about one hundred acres south of Shark River, intending to have each four acres. The Peter White farm, which lay between this tract and the river, could not then be purchased. Subsequently, and before any improvements were made, Mr. White was induced to sell, and through Mr. Joseph Bayard, of Trenton, the purchase was effected. The first purchase, made by A. Bitner, Jr., September 24, 1872, was from John Brown, Peter Brown, Anthony Brown, Isaac Newman, Stephen Bennett, Samuel Ludlow and Benjamin D. Pearce, who had purchased the tract, December 12, 1861, of Edward Brinley.

On the same date (September 24, 1872) Mr. Bitner purchased of James A. Bradley, of Asbury Park, one-eighth interest in the West Pond and tracts of twenty-five acres and eleven acres, and the same date of Richard Newman, fifty-eight acres. The second purchase was of the Peter White farm of two hundred and thirty acres, November 1, 1872, White reserving one acre which he had the right to select on any street or road then open; also nine acres of sedge or salt meadow adjoining, and one-fourth interest in West Pond. On the 11th of December, 1872, Joseph B. Yard purchased one-eighth interest in the West Pond of Joseph D. Newman, and October 24, 1872, one-quarter interest in the West Pond of Richard White. May 31, 1873, Mr. Yard bought of Charles D. S. White a lot of about eight acres. The White tract in 1790 was in possession of Jacob Wardell, who, by will dated June 23d in that year, gave it to his son, Joseph Wardell. On the 1st of September, 1800, Joseph Wardell sold to John Lippett White six hundred acres of land lying on the south side of Shark River, bounded westerly by "Polypod Bogg" and lands of Joseph Fleming and John Newman. This tract John L. White, by will dated February 15, 1821, gave to Richard White and Peter White, viz.: "all my lands and bildins, to be equally divided between them." In November, 1837, Richard White sold his half of the farm to Peter White. On the 10th of August, 1820, West Pond, containing about fifteen acres, was taken up by Andrew Bell, surveyor-general, for Richard and Peter White and Joseph and David Newman.



On the 12th of November, 1701, Gawin Drummond patented from the proprietors about twenty-seven acres of land on the south side of Shark River. Ninety acres, also on the south side of Shark River, were patented to William West, August 28, 1701. The land was sold by West to Robert Drummond, of Shrewsbury, July 27, 1702. These lands are mostly included in the White farm.

The Ocean Beach Association, composed of sixty members (among whom were the twenty-five gentlemen for whom the purchases of land had been made, in 1872, by Bitner and Yard) was formed, with the following-named directors: Hon. William S. Yard, A. G. Richey, Trenton; William M. Force, Esq., Hon. James L. Hays, James G. Barnet, Newark; A. Bitner, Jr., Ocean Beach; James S. Yard, Freehold; William L. Piper, J. R. Bitner, S. S. Spencer, Lancaster, Pa.; Thomas Kennedy, D. H. Wilson, J. S. James, Philadelphia, Pa.; and J. W. Fielder, Brooklyn, N. Y. The act of incorporation of this association was approved March 12, 1873. On the 20th of May, 1873, Joseph B. Yard conveyed to the association the lands he had purchased, and A. Bitner, Jr., conveyed his purchases June 27, 1873. Mr. Bitner was appointed superintendent, and the labor of grading and laying out the grounds commenced immediately.

At this time the White homestead<sup>1</sup> stood near the road that leads from Long Branch to Manasquan. The bridge crossing the river at this place was built in 1858. The Ocean Beach House was built in the summer of 1873, at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and the Manasquan road, at the south end of the bridge.

The Ocean Beach tract contains about four hundred acres, with a front on the ocean of one mile, and on Shark River of one mile and a half. The sea-front has an easy slope to the beach, and along the river-front is a low bluff, covered with verdure, and crowned with a heavy growth of trees. The river at this point spreads into a lake two miles in diameter, with high lands in the west. This river is the planting-

ground for the famous Shark River oysters, of which there is always an abundance to be obtained, and it also affords good fishing, being the resort of blue-fish, weak-fish, bass, flounders, etc., which come into the river to feed among the sedgy flats. These flats also furnish most of the soft crabs that are sold in the city markets. For many years this river has been the favorite resort of sportsmen in the pursuit of both fish and water-fowl, which have always been found here in abundance in their seasons.

The tract of the Ocean Beach Association has been laid out on a liberal scale, and with a regard to the health and comfort of those who occupy it, especially during the summer months. The twelve main avenues have this peculiar feature,—each one begins at the ocean and ends at Shark River. The lots are of uniform size, fifty by one hundred and fifty feet, and the avenues are eighty feet wide. By regulation, cottages are required to be set back twenty feet from the front line of the lots, making the street opening one hundred and twenty feet wide. The size of the lots affords space for lawns, flowers and stables. There is no restriction in regard to the size or style of building. Lot-owners may exercise their own taste and judgment in this matter.

THE OCEAN BEACH METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH edifice was built in 1872-73 by A. Bitner, Jr., on a lot donated by him for the purpose, situated on the corner of D Street and Tenth Avenue. This church, thirty-two by sixty feet in size, was dedicated June 8, 1873. Preaching was supplied in 1874-75 by Rev. C. B. Downs, of the Manasquan Methodist Church, and afterwards by ministers of Asbury Park Churches until 1882, when the Rev. W. H. Farout was appointed to this charge. He was succeeded, in March, 1884, by the Rev. W. Franklin.

A Methodist Protestant Church was erected at Ocean Beach, on the corner of Sixteenth Avenue and F Street. It was completed in April, 1884. Prior to its completion services were held in Bitner's Hall. The pastor is the Rev. J. W. Lauchlin.

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES

<sup>1</sup>Peter White was born at the old homestead, near the present residence of Joseph Cooper, in 1801, and lived on the property until his death, July 17, 1884.





(Episcopal) at Ocean Beach, is a frame building of Gothic style, twenty-five by forty-five feet in size, located on Fifth Avenue. The cornerstone of the edifice was laid August 12, 1877, by Bishop Scarborough, and the building was finished in the fall of the same year. The church is used only in the summer season, but occasional services are held at other times in the school-house. The pulpit is at present (winter of 1884-85) supplied by the Rev. Samuel Clements.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OCEAN BEACH was organized by a committee of the Presbytery of Monmouth on March 20, 1877, the application having been made on March 7th, and signed by eight persons who were formerly organized into the church. James W. Wight was elected, ordained and installed as ruling elder. The first preaching was by the Synodical missionary, Rev. A. H. Brown. Having no house of worship, they held services in the Methodist Church, Rev. A. H. Dashiell, Jr., of Lakewood, preaching for them Sabbath evenings once in two weeks; but these services were discontinued in April, 1879.

After a short interim, the want of a Presbyterian Church was so much felt that a meeting was called on November 13, 1879, to make arrangements for regular preaching, and on Sabbath, November 16th, it was again commenced in Bitner's Hall, with supplies from Princeton and Union Theological Seminaries, and from that date there has been preaching every Sabbath. The Sabbath-school was organized January 4, 1880.

On March 20, 1880, James W. Wight was re-elected elder for three years, and David F. Van Nortwick was elected and ordained ruling elder and installed for the same time. On July 19, 1880, the First Presbyterian Church of Ocean Beach was incorporated, and in the fall of that year a movement was made to secure lots for the church building; but not until the summer of 1881 did the effort prove successful. On August 8th application was made for two lots corner of E Street and Ninth Avenue. On August 30th answer was given by the president of the Ocean Beach Associa-

tion that they would be donated. On September 5th a committee was appointed to select a plan for the church building. On September 12th the plan was adopted, it being similar to a church that was recently dedicated at Elmer, N. J. On October 8th the contract for the foundation was given. On October 12th, ground was broken for the new church. On October 18th the corner-stone was laid, Rev. J. G. Symmes, D.D., of Cranbury, Rev. R. Aikman, D.D., of Madison, Rev. E. Kempshall, D.D., of Elizabeth, and others taking part in the services. The church, which is thirty-six by fifty-two feet in size and cost five thousand dollars, was dedicated June 13, 1883, at which time the Rev. James M. Denton was installed pastor, and still holds that relation to the church. The membership at the present time is fifty.

There is evidence that the Presbyterians have occupied this ground for a long time, as within a few miles from here are interred the remains of Presbyterian families who worshiped in a building known as the Shark River Presbyterian Church before the Revolutionary War.

THE WESTMINSTER (PRESBYTERIAN) CHAPEL at Ocean Beach was built in 1880. In the laying out of the town the association offered building-lots to all religious denominations who would erect thereon houses of worship. The trustees of Monmouth Presbytery, under orders from that body, received two lots on the corner of Sixth Avenue and E Street. These lots were not used, but others were selected for the Presbyterian Church of Ocean Beach. Later, the Rev. Dr. William P. Breed, General Louis Wagner, of Philadelphia, the Rev. Frank Chandler, of Freehold, and J. C. Atterbury of Trenton, were appointed trustees, for the Westminster Chapel. The lots on Sixth Avenue and E Street were offered them, but they were not thought desirable, and they were exchanged for lots on the corner of Seventh Avenue and A Street, and a large and commodious pavilion was erected at a cost of six thousand dollars for the accommodation of summer visitors of all denominations. It was first opened for services July 4th, and dedicated July 11, 1880. The property was transferred to Monmouth Presbytery in the spring of 1884.



Ocean Beach Lodge, No. 86, K. of P., was chartered May 22, 1873, and held its meetings at various times at Hopeville, Manasquan and Ocean Beach, at which last place it has located permanently in Freeborn's Hall.

Ocean Lodge, No. 89, F. and A. M., was instituted many years ago at Bricksburg, and was removed to Ocean Beach in June, 1884. It has twenty-six members.

United Lodge, No. 199, I. O. of O. F., was instituted February 19, 1884. It now has thirty-five members.

*The Shore Gazette* is the only newspaper of Ocean Beach. The first number of this paper, then called *The Crab* was issued in June, 1881. The name was changed to the present one April 5, 1884. It is Republican in politics.

The Ocean Beach post-office was established early in 1873, and A. Bitner, Jr., was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded November 13, 1877, by Henry H. Yard, the present postmaster.

LAKE COMO is a tract of land containing two hundred and forty acres, embracing within its limits what is known as Three-Cornered Pond (Lake Como), and lying south of and adjoining Ocean Beach. It is now owned by H. H. Yard, of Ocean Beach, and William M. Force, of Newark, who are grading and laying it out with the intention of selling lots for summer residences.

SEA PLAIN lies on the west side of the line of the Long Branch Railroad, the station being between Spring Lake and Ocean Beach stations. The place was long known as Pearee's. For many years the school-house at the place was used by the people in this locality for miles around. A store was also started at the place many years ago, and is still kept by one of the Pearee family. The land was purchased and laid out a few years ago by Captain Pitney Curtis and Judge John Remsen. A post-office was established in 1873, and a Methodist Protestant Church was built and dedicated August 25, 1875. It is under the care of the Rev. E. B. Stultz, pastor of Manasquan Methodist Protestant Church.

Directly in front of Sea Plain, and extending

to the beach, is a tract of land adjoining Spring Lake Association lands on the north. It is a tract laid out and partly occupied by the Brighton Land Association.

REID'S VILLA and ROGERS' PARK are situated on a tract of land, one undivided sixth part<sup>1</sup> of which was sold February 20, 1832, by James Grover, of Middletown, to Thomas Tilton. The whole tract was described as containing one hundred and fifty acres, lying between the branches of Rack (Wreck) Pond and within boundaries,—“Beginning at the point of the Neck running up the southerly branch brook of said Rack Pond west and a half point more northerly sixty-four chains; thence north-northeast fifty-two chains, more or less, to the northerly brook, one of the said branches, and then down that brook to where it began.”

On the 29th of October, 1716, George Rogers purchased a tract of land, “on y<sup>e</sup> south side of the head of Rack Pond,” of William Brindley, adjoining land of Thomas Tilton and Walter Herbert. In 1751, Benjamin Rogers owned land also on the south side of Wreck Pond Branch, formerly land of William Case. The tract of one hundred and fifty acres mentioned above came to the possession of the Rogers family about 1801. The property lies between the north branch of Wreck Pond and the highway from Manasquan to Long Branch. It has been laid out in lots and is being built up. The southern part is called Reid's Villa Park, and the northern part Rogers' Park.

BLASSINGBURG is a locality embracing a considerable area of territory in the southeastern part of the township, north of the village of Manasquan. In this vicinity one of the earliest land-holders was Edmund Lafetra, of Shrewsbury, one of the associate patentees of Monmouth, and also one of the members of the Manasquan Beach Company. He died before 1687, leaving his property by will to his widow, Frances Lafetra. His descendants are still living here.

Thomas Tilton, also one of the associates of

<sup>1</sup>The one-sixth interest sold to Thomas Tilton by James Grover, was sold to Grover September 5, 1708, by Thomas Shepherd.





the Monmouth patentees, purchased land where Robert L. Morris now lives, and in 1751 he had a saw-mill on Saw-mill Brook, which is the south branch of Wreck Pond. It is mentioned in a road record of 1793, and the foundation is remembered by old residents. He died before 1768, and his son Thomas lived in the homestead house, which is still standing and occupied by Robert L. Morris. Thomas Tilton, Sr., purchased other land adjacent, and he joined also in the speculation on Manasquan Beach. Thomas Tilton, Jr., married Faith, daughter of Joseph Lawrence. Abby Tilton, their daughter, became the wife of James L. Morris, whose son, Robert L. Morris, now resides in the old homestead house, a time-worn building with shingled sides.

In the locality called Blansingburg, a school-house was built before 1812, and as early as 1830, Lawrence Newberry kept a store there. It was at the house of Asher Pearce, near Newberry's store, that the Free Church now at Manasquan was organized, in 1842. Nearly west, and on the road from Bailey's Corners to Manasquan, or Long Bridge, stands the Friends' Meeting-house. It is not known at what time the Shrewsbury Meeting gave permission to establish a Preparative Meeting at this place. The families of Lafetra, Tilton, Potter and others were here about 1700. It was probably about 1736 that the meeting-house was built, as that was the time when several Friends' Meetings were established through the county, from the Chesterfield (Crosswicks) and the Shrewsbury Quarterly Meetings. The original lot was half an acre, to which half an acre was added when the church was repaired sixty years ago, and another half-acre January 30, 1845.

HOPEVILLE (otherwise called Chapel) took its name from the chapel of the Independent Methodists (now the Methodist Protestants), which was built in 1813, at this place. The Seventh-Day Baptists had erected a house of worship, and laid out a burial-ground many years before on a lot of land near Hurley's Corners. A large tract in that locality was taken up by David Knott, in January, 1749, and was owned by that family until it was sold to different par-

ties sixty or seventy years ago. This old burial-ground still remains with a few stones standing. The building was old in 1813, and the Independent Methodists, who were then organizing a number of churches through the lower part of the county, met October 2, 1813, and established "at Shark River, in the lower part of Howell, a Methodist Independent Church or Free Communion Chapel," and elected the following trustees: "John Saplin Newman, W. H., Benjamin B. Allgor, Aaron Gaskin, Cook Howland."

On the 12th of October, in the same year, the trustees purchased one acre of land of Sarah Boyd, at what is now Hopeville, and they also purchased the meeting-house erected at Hurley's by the Seventh-Day Baptists (then partially in ruins, but good in its frame), and moved it to the lot they had purchased, where it was repaired and refitted, and was used until the transfer, in 1850, to the Methodist Protestants. The ministers who preached here were Zenas Conger, Matthias Barkalow, John S. Newman, Ralph Thompson and others. After the property came into the possession of the Methodist Protestants, they, in 1853, remodeled the chapel, and in 1873 rebuilt it, and it was dedicated June 27, 1874. The church was then under charge of the Rev. E. D. Stultz, pastor of Squan Church, under whose care the society remained until 1876, since which time L. D. Stultz served until 1880 and T. B. Applegate from that time to the present.

Around this chapel there is a hamlet of a few buildings. Aaron Devoe built a small store under the hill and kept it many years. In 1866, A. H. Morris built the store which, since 1876, has been occupied by C. E. Bartow. In 1873 a post-office was established, with D. H. Woolley as postmaster. The office was for a time below the hill, and in 1876 was moved to Bartow's store, where C. E. Bartow acted as deputy until 1880, when he was appointed postmaster, and still holds the office.

NEW BEDFORD is a hamlet embracing a long rambling street, reaching from New Bedford Corners northerly to Allen's Corner. In 1844, James L. Allgor kept a store where the hotel now stands, and in 1852 the school-house on the



lot where now stands Wall Church was moved to the Corners, and occupied as a store by Smith & Allgor until it was destroyed by fire. The post-office was established about 1849 with Jacob I. Smith as postmaster. In 1860, James L. Allgor opened a store where he now is, at the north end of the street, and February 2, 1868, he was appointed postmaster, and the office was removed to his store, where it is now kept. Robert Finley was the first landlord at the Corners. He was succeeded by Isaac Amerman and Benjamin Grover, who now owns it. A carriage-shop owned by A. H. Newman and a wheelwright and blacksmith-shop by Jackson Marsh are at the northeast end of the street, and have been in existence there many years. A store is kept by John Tilton near the hotel corner.

WALL CHURCH, situated southeast from New Bedford, was erected about 1854, soon after the school-house on the same lot was removed to New Bedford Corners. It is a preaching station of Hamilton Methodist Episcopal Church.

BAILEY'S CORNERS, lying to the southwest of New Bedford, was so called from the fact that Claude Bailey, in 1865, built here a hotel, which is still conducted by Mrs. Bailey. Centre School-house is located at this place.

HURLEY'S CORNERS is a place located on a large tract of land which was taken up by Peter Knott as early as 1720, and on which he settled. His son, David Knott, remained on the homestead left him by will dated February 17, 1770. The property passed, about 1825, to John Shafto, whose widow still owns it. Peter Knott's daughters married as follows: Rebecca to Remembrance Lippincott, Rachel to Peter Van Dike, Abigail to Gavin Drummond, Mersey to Conrad Hendrickson and Catharine to James Wilson.

On the Knott tract, a Seventh-Day Baptist Church was built, which, in 1813, was moved to Hopeville.

SCHOOLS OF THE TOWNSHIP.—In 1851, upon the erection of Wall township, Dr. Robert Laird was appointed township superintendent of schools, and the township was at once divided into ten school districts, and in each of these districts where there were no school-houses,

frame buildings for schools were erected. Dr. Laird was superintendent as long as that system remained and until the present one was adopted. There are now eleven school districts, which contain thirteen hundred and eighty-seven children of school age, and the school property is valued at twenty-two thousand nine hundred dollars.

Old Bridge District, No. 91, has seventy-eight school children. A school-house stood near the site of the present one before 1825, which was used until 1840, when another was built on the same site. The present brick school-house was erected in 1883.

Manasquan District, No. 92, has two hundred and seventy-three pupils. A school-house was first built in the village about 1850. It stood about a hundred yards from the present site. This house was used until the new brick two-story school-house was built in 1881, at a cost of six thousand dollars.

Chapel District, No. 93, contains one hundred and two children of school age. The first school-house in this locality was erected in 1837 on land of Peter Davison, now of James L. Allgor. In 1866 the present house was erected on land of Robert Allen, Jr.

Pierce District, No. 94, is in the locality now known by the name of Sea Plain or New Brighton. A school-house was in use in this locality as early as 1835, and at it the people of the lower part of the township attended. The fine brick two-story building now used was built in 1882. The district now contains two hundred and twenty-one children of school age.

Ocean Beach District, No. 94½, has two hundred and thirty-four scholars. In 1873 a house was built for school purposes on the same lot now occupied. This house was used until the completion (September 1, 1884) of the new one, which is located on the corner of F Street and Twelfth Avenue. The contract was let to Thomas Hudson for eight thousand three hundred and thirty-two dollars. The house is of brick, two stories in height, with a school-room fifty-six by forty feet, an assembly-room fifty-four by thirty-eight feet and an extension thirty-four by thirty-seven feet. The cost of the house and furniture was ten thousand dollars.





Laird District, No. 95, has one hundred scholars. About 1825, Abram Osborne gave a piece of ground for school purposes at or near Manasquan, or Long Bridge. This house was used many years, and in it Benjamin D. Péaree taught school for several years after 1833. It has been long since abandoned. The present school-house was built in 1858. The district is named for Dr. Robert Laird, who resides there.

Hurley District, No. 96, contains eighty-two scholars. Over forty years ago a school-house was built here on land donated by Robert K. Shafto, and was used until the fall of 1884, when the present house was completed.

Allaire District, No. 97, contains forty-seven scholars. In 1832, James P. Allaire, of the Howell Iron-Works, erected a school building for the use of the children of the workmen in his service, and he also employed a teacher. The school was continued until public schools were established, since which time a school-building has been rented of the Allaire estate.

New Bedford District, No. 98, includes the village of that name, in the northeast part of the township. The first school-house in this locality was built before 1830, on the site of the Wall Methodist Church. It was moved to New Bedford Corners in 1852, and used as a store until it was burned. In 1853 a school-house was erected on the Gaskin property, which was occupied until July, 1870, when it was destroyed by fire. A lot was then purchased a short distance east of the hotel and the present brick house was erected at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars. The district now contains one hundred and twenty-one children of school age.

Blansingburg District, No. 99, has seventy-eight scholars. A school-house was erected in this locality as early as 1812, which was replaced in 1856 by the present house.

Centre District, No. 100, was formed in 1866, and the house was built on land donated by John B. Clement. The district comprises the territory about Bailey's Corners, and it now contains fifty-one children of school age.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

OSBORN CURTIS.—The subject of this sketch was the son of David Curtis, of Squan, a man who occupied a prominent position in the country in his day, being among the few extensive landholders of his time. His mother, Catharine Curtis, was a sister of Colonel Abraham and James Osborn.

Osborn Curtis was born at Squan, in the township of Howell (now Wall), Monmouth County, N. J., January 22, 1818. In youth he received a common-school education, and, like most young lads of his day along the shore, a considerable portion of his time was devoted to boating and fishing. On the 25th of December, 1836, he married Miss Ann Van Shaick, daughter of William Van Shaick, also of Squan. Having married thus early, young Curtis concluded to enter upon new occupations, and having a business turn of mind, in May, 1837, commenced the mercantile business at Squan village, in which he continued until 1853. He then entered into a co-partnership under the firm-name of Brannin, Bailey & Co., at which time the business was very much enlarged, he being the active partner of the firm. In 1850 he was appointed wreckmaster for the district between Squan and Shark River, which position he held for two terms of five years each. During the year 1854 a considerable interest was manifested in having a post-office at Squan village, the inhabitants being compelled to go two miles, to Squan Bridge, for their mail matter. In this movement Mr. Curtis took a very active part, and was the unanimous choice of the people for postmaster, with a semi-weekly mail. On the night of January 3, 1856, the firm of which Mr. Curtis was the active partner met with a very serious loss, their whole stock of goods, with all their books and papers and their lumber-yard adjoining the store, together with the contents of the post-office, of which Mr. Curtis was postmaster, being destroyed by fire. The insurance upon the property was very light; consequently the loss of the firm was a serious one. They, however, overcame it, and as speedily as possible renewed business operations.



By his first marriage Mr. Curtis had eight children,—four sons and four daughters,—five of whom are now living. Mrs. Curtis died December 20, 1860. Mr. Curtis was twice elected a member of the Legislature of New Jersey by the votes of the Second Assembly District of Monmouth, and represented them in the sessions of 1862 and 1863, during which

of the leading prominent men of Squan. He owns much valuable land in the village, and being a public-spirited gentleman, does much for the growth and prosperity of his village. He is kind and hospitable, his many acts of benevolence endearing him to his fellow-citizens. In April, 1881, he retired from active business.



*O. Curtis*

time he was instrumental in securing the charter for the Long Branch and Sea-Shore Railroad. On September 15, 1863, he married his second wife, Mrs. Catharine Dearborn, of Squan. In 1864 he entered into copartnership under the firm-name of Curtis & Davison, which firm still continues, doing an extensive business. Having lost his second wife soon after his marriage, on August 21, 1870, Mr. Curtis was married to his last wife, Mrs. Sarah E. Moss, of Virginia. Mr. Curtis has long been an active business man, and is extensively known as one

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP.

HOLMDEL is an interior township of Monmouth, situated in the northern part of the county. On the north it is bounded by Raritan township, on the east by Middletown, on the south and southwest by the Atlantic and on the west by the townships of Marlborough and Matawan. The principal stream of Holmdel is Hop Brook, which marks a part





of its western boundary against Marlborough, and all of its southwestern boundary against Atlantic township. Several small streams flow south from the central part of the township and enter Hop Brook. From the extreme northeast corner of Holmdel, Wakake Creek flows northwardly through Raritan township into Raritan Bay. The only railroad of the township is the New York and Long Branch line, which crosses its northeastern part. The population of Holmdel, by the United States census of 1880, was fifteen hundred and seventy-five.

The territory of Holmdel was taken from Raritan, and erected a township by the provisions of an act passed in 1857, as follows:

"All that part of the township of Raritan contained within the following boundaries and lines, that is to say: Beginning in the centre of the public road leading from Arrowsmith's Mills to Tanner's Landing, and in the line between the townships of Raritan and Middletown, at the northeast corner of lands of John P. Smith; and from thence running in a southwesterly direction in a straight line to the bridge near Murphy's Tan-Yard, in the public road leading from Middletown to Middletown Point; thence westerly along the middle of the said road to the intersection of said road with the road leading from Holmdel to Brown's Point; thence southerly along the middle of the last-named road to the intersection of said road with the road leading from Beers' Corner to Mount Pleasant, near the residence of Ann Van Braekle; and thence running in a straight line on a southerly course to the northeast corner of the township of Marlboro', near the dwelling-house of Samuel Beers; thence along the division line between the township of Raritan and the townships of Marlborough and Atlantic to the Middletown line; thence northerly along the division line between the townships of Raritan and Middletown to the place of beginning. The same is set off from the township of Raritan and made a separate township, to be called Holmdel."

Following is a list of chosen freeholders of Holmdel township from its organization to the present time, viz.:

- 1857. Jonathan I. Holmes.
- 1858-68. John W. Hoff.
- 1869-73. John H. Heyer.
- 1874. William D. Hendrickson.
- 1875-85. John H. Heyer.

Holmdel township was so named for the Holmes family, several of whom were, now are and have been, for generations, large land-

owners and influential men in this region. From the first settlement of the county down to the present time many offices of honor and trust in Monmouth have been held by members of this family. With but few exceptions, they have led honorable lives, been good citizens and prospered in business. Much of the progress of the county in agriculture has been due to the industry and strong common sense which has characterized them. "For two centuries," says Judge Beckman, "they have intermarried with the old families of Monmouth, and at this time perhaps one-fourth of the inhabitants, who are descendants of the English Baptist and Quaker settlers and the Dutch, French Huguenot and Scotch settlers of this county, are connected by ties of blood with the Holmes' ancestor of this family, who was the Rev. Obadiah Holmes, second pastor of the old Baptist Church at Newport, R. I. He was a trusted and faithful leader of the Baptists of that colony; a staunch, conscientious man of profound and steadfast religious convictions, and, like many others of that period, he, on account of his faith, suffered persecution at the hands of the intolerant New England Puritans. When, as a penalty for preaching Baptist doctrines, he was sentenced by them to pay a fine or be publicly whipped, he refused to pay (though he was abundantly able to do so), for he regarded a payment of the fine to be an acknowledgement of error and a 'denial of his Lord,' and he chose to suffer by stripes rather than do this."

The Rev. Obadiah Holmes was one of the Monmouth patentees, to whom Governor Richard Nicolls granted the territory of nearly the entire present county of Monmouth. Like some of the others of those patentees, he never actually settled here, but he made occasional visits to this region, and helped to organize the old Baptist Church at Middletown, which was the first of that denomination in New Jersey, and either the third or fourth in America. Two of the sons of Rev. Obadiah Holmes, however (Obadiah and Jonathan), came to settle on the Monmouth patent. Obadiah remained only a few years and then returned to Rhode Island. His brother Jonathan remained here permanently, and was one of the first officers elected



at a meeting of the inhabitants of "Middle-town, on Newasunk Neck," and "Shrewsbury, on Navarumsunk Neck," held on the 19th of December, 1667. From these ancestors have descended the very numerous Holmes family of Monmouth County.

Another of the Monmouth patentees, Captain John Bowne, was one of the first, if not the first, of the settlers in what is now Holmdel township, as his was also one of the first five families who settled in Monmouth County in 1664. It is not certain that his first house in Monmouth was in what is now Holmdel; he may have settled first nearer the bay, and afterwards removed here, but it is known for many years preceding, and until the time of his death, he lived on a farm near what is now known as Crawford's Corners, in Holmdel, it being the property which was owned by the late William H. Crawford, it having come to the Crawford family by marriage. Captain John Bowne was the original patentee of that tract of land. His widow, the "Widdow Bound," was often mentioned in the ancient road records, from 1684 to 1693, and she was the same person to whom some of the Indian chiefs deeded certain lands on the 10th of August, 1690, as found in Deed Book A, B, C, of Monmouth records.

Captain John Bowne held the office of Speaker of the Provincial House of Deputies for several years, as also other positions of honor and trust; and through all the years of his life in Monmouth County he was not only one of its most prominent citizens, but his universally recognized character was that of an upright, conscientious, Christian man. This is made apparent by the tenor of an ancient paper, written by his hand (or dictated by him), which was found among other old documents in possession of the late James G. Crawford, and of which the following is a copy:

'Some Words of Advice and Council spoken by Capt. John Bowne to his Children, as he lay on his death-bed, January y<sup>e</sup> 3d, 1683-84.'

"There is no way in the world for a man to obtain felicity in this world or in the world to come, but to take heed to the ways of the Lord and to put his trust in Him who deals faithfully and truly with all men, for he knocks at the doors of your hearts, and calls you to come and buy, without money and without price.

"My desire is that in all actions of Meum and Tuum, you deal not deceitfully, but plain-hearted with all men, and remember that your dying Father left it with you for your instruction that when trust is with your honor, to preserve it. And in all contracts and bargains that you make, violate not your promise, and you will have praise. Let your mother be your counselor in all matters of difference, and go not to lawyers, but ask her counsel first. If at any time you have an advantage of a poor man at law, O, pursue it not, but rather forgive him if he hath done you wrong; and if you do so, you will have help of the law of God and of his people. Give not away to youthful jollities and sports, but improve your leisure time in the service of God. Let no good man be dealt churlishly by you, but entertain when they come to your house. But if a vicious, wicked man come, give him meat and drink to refresh him, and let him pass by your doors. It has been many times in my thoughts that for a man to marry a wife and have children, and never take care to instruct them, but leave them worse than the beasts of the field, so that if a man ask concerning the things of God, they know not what it means, O, this is a very sad thing. But if we can season our hearts so as to desire the Lord to assist us, he will help us, and not fly from us."

Captain Bowne must have died shortly after giving these words of advice, as on May 27th of the same year (1684) there were executed an article of agreement signed by Lydia Bowne, his widow and executrix, by which the estate was divided between the widow, his sons,—John and Obadiah Bowne,—Gershom Mott and daughters,—Deborah, Sarah and Catharine.

The only village of the township is Holmdel, located in the southwestern corner. This place was previously known as Baptisttown. In Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 it is mentioned as "Holmdel, or Baptisttown," with the following description: "It contains an academy, a Baptist Church, two stores and eight dwellings." There are few persons now living who are aware of the fact that the little hamlet which afterwards became Baptisttown, and is now Holmdel, was the original village of Freehold, and bore that name many years (probably three-fourths of a century) before the village now known as Freehold was so called. This fact is shown beyond the possibility of dispute by an old map drawn from surveys made in 1769 by an officer of the British army.<sup>1</sup> This map shows

<sup>1</sup> The map is entitled, "The Province of New Jersey,





Freehold village, with a considerable cluster of houses, standing exactly where Holmdel now is, at the intersection of the road running (as then delineated) from Shrewsbury to Cranbury, with the road running from Middletown to Monmouth Court-House, which latter village is represented by a much smaller cluster of houses than is given to Freehold (now Holmdel).

A store was kept in the academy building at this village before 1820 by Daniel Holmes. Soon after that time he became associated in business with Aaron Longstreet, which partnership continued until 1837 when it was dissolved. The academy in which Holmes had previously kept his store was again used (soon after 1820) for school purposes, and the firm of Holmes and Longstreet had their place of business where John Hance now keeps store. Thomas Sword and William H. Smock were merchants at Holmdel for many years.

The post-office at Holmdel was established about 1836 with Dr. R. W. Cooke<sup>1</sup> postmaster. He was succeeded by Thomas Thorn, Gilbert H. Van Mater, George S. Jones and Henry W. Magee, the present incumbent, who has held the position since 1868.

About half a mile east of Holmdel village is the Van Mater mill site, which is said to have been occupied for mill purposes since 1788,—the first mill there having been erected and put in operation by one of the Holmes family. On the 29th of March, 1860, the large merchant and grist-mill at this place (owned by Gilbert H. Van Mater) was destroyed by fire, and it has not been rebuilt.

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Divided into East and West, commonly called the Jerseys.  
Engraved and Published by William Faden, Charing Cross,  
December 1st, 1777.

"This map has been drawn from the survey made in 1769 by order of the Commissioners appointed to settle the Partition Line between the Provinces of New York and New Jersey, by Bernard Ratzer, Lieutenant in the 60th Regiment, and from another large Survey of the Northern Parts, in possession of the Earl of Dunmore, by Gerard Banker, the whole regulated and ascertained by Astronomical observations."

At the time when Lieutenant Ratzer made this survey (1769) his regiment, or a detachment of it, was stationed at Perth Amboy.

<sup>1</sup> A more extended mention of Dr. Cooke will be found in the chapter on the Monmouth Medical Society.

Ely's Mills are situated on Hop Brook, in the southwest corner of the township, at the intersection of the township lines of Holmdel, Atlantic and Marlborough. About two hundred yards below the present mill, Jacob Van Doren built a grist-mill about 1710, on a tract of seven hundred and seventy-six acres which he had purchased in this section some years previously. This mill remained in the Van Doren family until 1829, when it was purchased by Sheriff Ely, who built a new mill on the present site, which is now owned and operated by his sons, Thomas and John Ely.

THE HOLMDEL BAPTIST CHURCH<sup>2</sup> has a history dating back more than two centuries, but no clue to its ancient origin is found either in its name or the date of its recognition.

The Middletown Church had, in its beginning, two centres in the township of Middletown, at each of which the Baptist settlers predominated, where they erected meeting-houses, worshiping and transacting the church business in them alternately. One of these was the village of Middletown, the other Baptisttown, or the Academy. Baptisttown fitly designated its religious type. It was a Baptist settlement.

Each place and assembly is designated in the church records,—that at Baptisttown as "The Upper Meeting-house," and the congregation as "The Upper Congregation;" and that of Middletown village as "The Lower Meeting-house," and the congregation as "The Lower Congregation." These congregations were absolutely one, sharing equally in the responsibilities and privileges of the church. At Baptisttown there was a very certain proportion of social and financial strength, as well as of spiritual power. Reference to some of these men, the founders of our religious freedom, is necessary to the completeness of this sketch.

April 8, 1665, Richard Stout and others obtained a patent from Governor Richard Nicolls, conveying Middletown and Shrewsbury to them. These men were most of them Baptists, and they had this guarantee in their patent: "Unto any and all persons who shall plant and inhabit in any of the land aforesaid, they shall have free

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<sup>2</sup> By the Rev. T. S. Griffiths.



liberty of conscience, without any molestation whatsoever in their way of worship." Among these patentees was the Obadiah Holmes who suffered public whipping in Boston for his Baptist faith. He did not reside there, but his son, Jonathan Holmes, became a resident, and in 1668 was a member of Assembly. Subsequently he returned to the homestead in Middletown, R. I., having settled his two sons, Jonathan and Obadiah, upon his lands in Middletown, N. J., which, in 1713, he bequeathed to them.

These, Jonathan and Obadiah, grandsons of the Rev. Obadiah Holmes were constituents of the Middletown Church. Their descendants are still identified with "The Upper Congregation." Baptisttown sprang up on this tract, known now as Holmdel, taking with the township set off from Middletown a memorial name of a family identified with the earliest history of the county. The Stout tract and homestead joined that of Holmes. Our most authentic tradition<sup>1</sup> says that Penelope Stout was buried on it about two miles from Holmdel.

John Bray was a resident and property-owner in 1668, the reputed year of the organization of the church. He may have been a constituent of it, though his name is not in the imperfect list now in existence. Mr. Bray came from England. One of his descendants, Richard Bray, has a deed of 1688 of land to him, a part of the Lawrence tract. He bought a part of the Holmes tract, lived and died upon it, having given the land on which the church and parsonage are. The church minutes speak of him as a "man of gifts." He was a preacher, but it is not known that he was ordained; evidently an earnest man, he took a deep and active interest in the welfare of Zion. To him the church is indebted for the property in Holmdel,—parsonage, meeting-house and burial-grounds. Others, also,—Bownes, Crawfords,<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Stout tract is identified as part of the Hendrickson and Longstreet farms, near Holmdel. Penelope Stout is believed to have been buried in an old graveyard nearly one hundred yards south of the residence of the late John S. Hendrickson.

<sup>2</sup> The farm on which the venerable James Crawford lived was the homestead of Obadiah Bowne, passing by marriage into the Crawford family.

Motts,<sup>3</sup> Ashtons,<sup>4</sup> lived near "The Upper House."

The business of the church seems to have been transacted, as now in country churches, "at the meeting before Communion," indiscriminately at either house. We read in June, 1713, "at our yearly meeting in Middletown." In August, 1732, "appointed a quarterly meeting in Middletown." August, 1735, the entry is "Middletown, at the Upper Meeting-house;" and in the next month, "at the above said Meeting-house." In 1736, probably to avoid confusion, it was decided to hold "a yearly meeting for business in the old meeting-house, near John Bray's." No reference is found to a change of this order. Yet fifty years later, in 1788, it appears that a change had been made, the communion seasons before that date having been held for six months consecutively in each place. Then, however, it was ordered "that the meetings shall be in rotation in their seasons at each meeting-house." This arrangement continued until the division of the church, in 1836.

The grounds held by the Holmdel Church, including the parsonage and house of worship and burial-ground, contained four and one-third acres, and was the gift of John Bray, already spoken of.<sup>5</sup>

It is noteworthy that both the lot in the village of Middletown and that of Baptisttown, on which the houses of worship stand, were the gifts of ministers.

Obadiah Bowne and Garret Wall in a deed of acknowledgment of trust, dated December 18, 1705, address themselves "to all Christian people," and declare "that John Bray and

<sup>3</sup> Ancestor of Deacon G. Mott, First Church, Trenton; father of General Mott, of Bordentown.

<sup>4</sup> A minister and ancestor of Ashton, the first Baptist in Upper Freehold.

<sup>5</sup> Morgan Edwards, in his "Materials for the History of the Baptist Churches in New Jersey," states that "the ground was partly given by John Bray and partly by Obadiah and Jonathan Holmes." This is a mistake. Obadiah and Jonathan did not come into possession of their father's lands till after his decease, in 1713, eight years subsequent to the date of the deed given by John Bray. Their father may have added to the church lot and probably did.





Susanna, his wife, on December 14, 1705, on mere special trust and confidence, for the only use, benefits and behoofs of the society, community or congregation called Baptists," gave, etc., describing the property; and further bind themselves to convey the property to the church, when it shall have a legal existence. Not incorporated until December, 1793, the title was thus held for eighty-eight years. The original deed of trust is now in the keeping of the trustees, and is the oldest deed held by any Baptist Church in the State. The title also, if not the oldest, is but little later than that on which the Lower House stood, of which, however, there is no record in the clerk's office. This land since bought from the Indians has been owned by Baptists.

A house of worship and parsonage were built contemporaneously alongside of each other on the southwest corner of this property, immediately adjoining the burial-grounds of the Bray family and of the church.<sup>1</sup> By whom and when erected, the church record is silent. The buildings may have been put up prior to 1705. The Baptist families in the vicinity probably contributed to their erection. From the little known of John Bray, he is supposed to have had considerable force of character, as well as to have been large-hearted. We incline to the opinion that he bore the brunt of the cost of these buildings, from the fact that the meeting-house was for many years known as the "Bray Meeting-house." In 1735 it is referred to in the church-book as "The Old Meeting-house near John Bray's." Some who worshiped in that built in Middletown village after 1700, and in that at Baptisttown, have left word that "they were as much alike as two peas." "The Old Bray Meeting-house" was probably the model of the other.

Substantial financial aid came also from the Holmeses. Jonathan Holmes, Jr., son of Jona-

than Holmes, of Middletown (now Holmdel), a great-grandson of Obadiah Holmes, was a minister whether ordained or not, is not written. Having settled his affairs and made his will, he visited the home of his fathers, in England, in 1737. On the return voyage he died at sea, 1738. He bequeathed four hundred pounds to the church,—a great sum in those days. Samuel Holmes, James Tapseott and James Mott were his executors. The carefulness and integrity of these men, and of their successors, usually acting trustees of the church up to its incorporation, as is shown by its records, is the highest memorial of their Christian character.

It has been a question how, through the fluctuations and poverty of a new country, the wreck of all financial interests in the Revolution, Middletown, a small country church, could command for its pulpit and retain in long pastorates the best gifts of the denomination. The gift of church properties and parsonage, and the use of the legacy of Jonathan Holmes, Jr., solve the problem. It was loaned to Abel Morgan, and he enabled to live in his own house. Repaid in the settlement of his estate, Samuel Morgan had the use of it. Returned when he resigned. It was husbanded and used to insure the labors of Mr. Bennet for twenty-three years. In 1818 it was diverted from the support of the pastor, and part of it appropriated to complete the parsonage at The "Upper Meeting-House." The balance was probably invested in the houses of worship now in use in Holmdel and in the village of Middletown.

At a church-meeting, September 18, 1794, Mr. Bennet, pastor, "A subscription was ordered for a new meeting-house on Bray's lot." No further mention is made of how much, or by whom, or by what means the funds were secured for this object. Fifteen years elapsed,—years of trial and of constancy,—when, October 29, 1809, having worshiped in the old house more than a century, the minutes read: "The first Communion Season was held in the new meeting-house on Bray's lot." This was also a dedicatory service. Beside the pastor, Mr. Bennet, Pastors Wilson, of Hightstown, and Boggs, of Hopewell, and Bishop, of Lower Freehold (Upper?), were present. Mr. Wilson,

<sup>1</sup> The great-grandson, a member of Holmdel Baptist Church, says that John Bray built both. This was certainly the first Baptist parsonage in New Jersey, and doubtless the first meeting-house built by Baptists for their own use. Tradition says the first house at Middletown was built for town purposes, and the church used it. This was the case at Pisectaway.



who, twenty-four years before, had preached the funeral sermon of Abel Morgan, and two days after, the ordination sermon of Samuel Morgan, and who was also one of the two ministers at the ordination of Mr. Bennet, preached on Lord's Day morning, from Psalm cxxxii. 15; Mr. Boggs, in the afternoon, from Exodus xx. 24. On Monday, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Boggs each preached again. The house was thirty-six feet by forty-five. It has since undergone enlargements and improvements. Many interesting associations belong to the old sanctuary. Here, July, 1792, the trustees were instructed to obtain an act of incorporation, and, at the same meeting, Mr. Bennet was called to ordination, "as a transient minister," not pastor, as is graven upon his tombstone. Six months later he was invested with the pastor's office. Mr. Bennet never was a member of Middletown Church. A minute of July, 1816, reads: "Appointed John Beers to superintend the building of a house on the meeting-house lot of the upper house, commonly called the Bray Meeting-house of the size twenty-five feet square, two stories high; no ceiling overhead; and the same John Beers to proceed in the business so far as the money raised will go." The same house is still the parsonage of the Holmdel Church. Like the house of worship by which it stands, it has been improved and enlarged at various times; but we know not at what expense or how provided for, except that in 1819 the trustees ordered money at interest to be called in to pay the balance due on the building. A room was prepared in the house for the library of Abel Morgan, to which, by vote of the church, in June, 1818, it was ordered to be removed.

Elliot, King, Roberts, Hires, Nice, Mulford and Wilson have successively occupied, as a study, this "prophet's room over against the wall." Prior to the separation of the church into two bands, in 1836, she owned no other parsonage. Mr. Bennet alone, of all the pastors since 1805, is known not to have lived in either the first or second parsonage. A wood-lot of twenty-two acres was bought by "The Upper Congregation," for the uses of the church, in 1825. Thenceforth, besides his salary

in money, the pastor received the parsonage and "his fuel carted to his door." Up to the settlement, this has continued to be "the portion" of the Holmdel pastors. When "The Upper Congregation" was organized into "The Second Middletown Church," this property, really theirs by gift and purchase of themselves, and which, for so many generations, they had freely given for the use of the whole church, they bought for five hundred and fifty dollars.

"The Upper Congregation," thus providing the parsonage with a house of worship, wood-lot and incomes, which, for a hundred years, made it possible to obtain and support with ease an able ministry, none would suppose to be the same place and people which the sketch of First Middletown, in 1867, refers to, in the statement that a house built on Bray's lot, in 1808, was a "preaching-station." With more propriety was the village of Middletown "a preaching-station," visited by the pastors for one hundred years, on alternate Sabbaths. The church was equally identified with both places in every particular of worship, ordinances and business meetings. The Middletown Church was not that body which met in the *village* of Middletown, but that which held its assemblies in the *township* from which it was named.

Of the pastors who have died within the bounds of the church, Abel Morgan and Thomas Roberts and D. B. Stout were buried at Middletown, and Samuel Morgan and Benjamin Bennet were buried at and near Holmdel. Samuel Morgan, after his resignation, lived and died (1794) about a mile from the Upper Meeting-house. Mr. Bennet died October 8, 1840.

So far as can be learned, the locality of those who were added to the church under Samuel Morgan's ministry, excepting the additions from Long Branch, a large proportion were in the vicinities of his residence. Of the nineteen received by Mr. Elliot, fifteen were baptized at "The Upper House." Thirty were added during Mr. King's oversight, of whom twenty-two were baptized at "the Upper House." The growth of the church within the limits of "The Upper Congregation" was very marked down to 1826, when Pastor Roberts removed to his own home, in "The Lower Congregation."





Before 1834, increase of population and of the congregations, and the demand for more ministerial labor in the bounds of the church, had led to the enquiry, How to meet the increasing claims of the field? A separation into two bands was an unwelcome subject. The breaking of ties that had been entwining for one hundred and fifty years was to some unendurable. The fearful saw ruin in separation. It was doubtful to the pastor if the time had come when two churches could be sustained and occupy the field as well as the undivided body. Discussion ripened into action in the fall of 1834, when an invitation was sent to Rev. D. B. Stout, settled at Lambertville, to visit the church, with the view of becoming joint pastor with Mr. Roberts. He came. The way was not yet fully prepared, and he returned home. Early in 1836 the church sent a request to Rev. William D. Hires, residing at South Trenton, to visit them. Having done so in due time, he accepted their call to a joint pastorate with Mr. Roberts.

After six months it was agreed to divide into two bands,—“The Lower Congregation” worshipping in “The Lower House,” in the village of Middletown, retaining the name and organization of the original body; “The Upper Congregation,” taking the title of “Second Middletown,” was recognized as an independent church, September 1, 1836, by a council consisting of Pastors Roberts and Hires, of Middletown, C. J. Hopkins, of Freehold, and J. M. Challis, of Upper Freehold.

Mr. Roberts remained with “The Lower Congregation,” in the midst of which he lived. Mr. Hires retained the oversight of “The Upper,” amid which he resided, receiving the same salary as had been paid by the whole body to Mr. Roberts.

The constituency of the Second Middletown was fifty-three, as follows: John G. Taylor, Lydia Taylor, Sarah Jane Armstrong, Elizabeth S. Taylor, Sophia Taylor, John Chacy, Hannah Smith, Henry Gifford, Susan Conover, Rhoda Pierce, Eleanor Waters, William Sutton, Jane Van Brackle, Mary Jane Thompson, James Carhart, Susan Carhart, Mary Parsons, Mary Posten, William H. Johnson, Ann B. Taylor,

Eleanor Van Brackle, Stephen Van Brackle, Marcy Worrel, Rachel Andrews, Catharine Covert, Jane Stillwagon, Martha Chacy, Mary Johnson, Achsa Ely, Margaret Sutton, Sarah Holmes, Elizabeth Cottrell, Mary Longstreet, Catharine Carhart, Rhoda Schanek, Eliza Cook, Elizabeth Taylor, Edmund H. Tice, Jane Tice, Mary Tilton, Rebecca Worrel, Eleanor Holmes, Catharine Stoughtenborough, Richard Carhart, Hannah Holmes, Dianah Longstreet, Altha Tilton, Mary George, Elizabeth Beers, Aaron Conover, Jernsha Tice, Hagar Longstreet, Farnar Ely. Mr. Hires continued pastor ten years, preaching at Keyport, Matawan and Marlborough, laying foundations for the churches since formed in these places, also occupying other points in the vicinity. He resigned in August, 1846.

In 1840 the house of worship was modernized; the lofty pulpit and sounding-board and gallery, up under the eaves, came down. The square pews gave place to slips.

After the resignation of Mr. Hires the venerable John Rogers supplied the church until June, 1847, at which time Rev. William J. Niece entered upon the pastorate. Mr. Niece resigned in April, 1851. During his pastorate the house of worship was improved by the addition of a new front and of a steeple, and the steeple having been blown off, was replaced by another. Not less than two thousand dollars was expended for these improvements.

The name of the church was changed, in 1849, to Holmdel,—that taken by the township set off from Middletown.

Clarence W. Mulford supplied the church for three months, finally yielding to her call to be pastor, in August, 1851. It was evident, ere long, that the hope of his restoration to health must be relinquished. His resignation was accepted October, 1852. In October, 1853, C. E. Wilson became pastor, and filled the office sixteen years. One hundred and seventy-four were baptized by him. Several seasons of revival marked his ministry.

James C. Taylor and Henry D. Ely were called to the deaconship in 1860, and John H. Wykoff in 1868.

Deacon John G. Taylor died in 1864, and Deacon James C. Taylor in 1868.



The house of worship was enlarged and very materially improved in 1866, costing not less than three thousand dollars.

Mr. Wilson died at his post, November 13, 1869. The church expressed her appreciation of the man by substantial tokens to his bereaved family, and by the erection at his grave of a granite monument, costing four hundred dollars.

In April, 1870, the Rev. T. S. Griffiths became pastor. The parsonage was enlarged, the grounds about the buildings improved, a baptistery put into the house of worship, and six thousand dollars paid in improvements and canceling the indebtedness of the church.

The Rev. T. S. Griffiths closed his labors here on the 1st of August, 1881, having accepted a call to Cherryville, Hunterdon County, N. J. The Rev. W. W. Case, of Hamilton Square, N. J., was called as pastor in October, 1881, and settled December 1, 1881. In 1882 the old parsonage, which had stood between sixty and seventy years, was torn down, and a new and commodious parsonage, costing between three and four thousand dollars, was erected in its place. Mr. Case is still pastor of the church. The present deacons are J. J. Taylor, J. H. Wyekoff, Morford Taylor, T. C. Ely and W. W. Brown. The present trustees are J. J. Taylor, Morford Taylor, T. O. Ely, S. C. Bray, John W. Ely, William C. Ely and C. S. Holmes. The present membership is two hundred and four.

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF HOLMDEL was originally a part of the Old Dutch Reformed Church of the Navesink (now the "Brick Church" of Marlborough) the history of which is referred to as embracing that of this church until the year 1825, when the Classis of Monmouth gave it a separate and distinct organization. The old church had also been known as the Reformed Church of Freehold and Middletown, the present townships of Holmdel and Marlborough (in which the congregation principally lived) being then included respectively in the old townships of Middletown and Freehold. In the year 1719 a house of worship, thirty-three by thirty-six feet in size, was erected on a knoll about a mile north from

the village of Holmdel, on the road to Middletown. The body of the house contained twelve pews, each containing eight seats, which were numbered, so that each person had his or her number. A gallery was built on three sides. The main entrance was a door on the north side. No deed was obtained for the church lot until April 12, 1823, when Andreas Johnson conveyed it to Daniel Hendrickson and Johannes Polhemus. It was given for the use of the congregation as long as the church should continue. This building was used until 1764, when it was sold and removed, and part of the frame is now in a barn in the neighborhood.

The second church edifice was built while the congregations were under the care of the Rev. Benjamin Dubois. It was erected on the site of the old church, and was forty feet square, with gables facing north and south. It was shingled on the sides with shingles three feet in length. The interior was lined and ceiled with cedar boards, all unpainted. A large double door, opening outwards, was on the south side, and directly opposite on the north side was the pulpit. An aisle ran through the centre, with two others parallel, one on each side. There were fifty pews in all. The building was raised August 21, 1764; the pews were sold November 5, 1773, and brought the sum of three hundred and thirty-one pounds, or eight hundred and eighty-three dollars. The gallery was built in later years.

This church edifice was in use until the present church was erected, in 1838. It was then abandoned, and in 1842 was taken down and the frame used in the construction of a barn of Mr. John Longstreet. The present church was dedicated June 20, 1838, the Revs. James Otterson and John C. Van Liew officiating. The pastors who have served the present church, organized in 1825, have been the Rev. Jacob B. T. Beekman (1827 to 1836), and the Rev. William Reiley, who served the church as a supply from the retirement of Mr. Beekman, in 1836, to 1839, when he became the pastor and is still in service. The church now has one hundred and ninety-four communicants.

ST. CATHARINE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CON-





GREGATION was formed at Morrisville in 1878. In 1879 a church building, twenty-five by seventy feet in size, was erected on the road from Holmdel to Morrisville. It was dedicated by Archbishop Corrigan, November 25, 1879. At the time of organization the church was under the care of Father M. L. Glennan, who remained until June 1, 1883, when he was succeeded by Father J. J. O'Connor.

**SCHOOLS OF HOLMDEL.**—The township contains six school districts and five hundred and ninety-three children of school age. The value of the school property is five thousand seven hundred dollars.

Holmdel School District, No. 53, embraces a section of the township in which there were schools taught before the recollection of any now living. In 1820, Daniel Holmes kept a store in the old Academy building. It was afterwards used again for a school, and was finally destroyed by fire in 1837. It stood opposite the residence of James Hiers. The principal in its later days was John Jenkins.

A spring from which water was used for the school is under an old beech-tree now standing in the yard of Mrs. Eliza Crane. Under the tree and around the spring was a favorite gathering-place of the children in play hours.

On the 12th of October, 1841, the school trustees of Holmdel District purchased of Holmes Van Mater the present school lot, and erected thereon the school-house which is still in use. The district at present contains one hundred and thirty-three children.

A classical school, opened at Holmdel by David Thomson, held its first session September 12, 1854. It was continued but a few years.

Holland School District, No. 54, embraces parts of Holmdel and Middletown townships. In 1841 the Hon. William H. Hendrickson built a school-house on his land, on the dividing line between the two townships. The same house is still in use for the school. The district contains sixty-one children of school age.

Crawford School District, No. 55, was formed at the abandonment of the Red Hill and Fox-town school-houses. The present school-house

was built about 1855. It has since been repaired and refurnished, and is still in use. The district now has eighty-five children of school age. The Foxtown school-house was on land of Garret Hendrickson; was built about 1837 and abandoned in 1855. An old school-house which stood near the Marlborough line, on land now owned by George Schenck, was abandoned about 1840.

Centreville School District, No. 56, contains one hundred and thirty-two children of school age. Before 1825 a school-house was erected on the property now owned by John Huff. Peter Vanderhoof and — Kelly were among the first teachers. About 1840 a lot was purchased of Gershom D. Walling, and the present house was erected on it. Among the first teachers in this house were Miss Bacon and Miss Martha Huff (now Mrs. Ryder). This house was used until 1883, when it was rebuilt.

Morrisville School District, No. 57, is mentioned in the superintendent's report as of Holmdel township, although the school-house is situated in Middletown at Scott's Corners, or Morrisville, as it is now called. As early as 1824 a small meeting-house stood on a half-acre of land now owned by Miss Ann Ryan. This house was used by a Methodist Church society, and owned by them. On the 28th of March, 1845, John B. Crawford, Samuel H. Smith and David H. Bennett, trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, sold the house and lot to Samuel Carhart, William Murphy, R. D. Walling and William Hoff, school trustees. School was taught there a year or two after the purchase. Then the house was moved to the Corners, on the present lot, and used until 1876, when the present school-house was built. The district now contains one hundred and six children of school age.

Oak Grove School District, No. 58, contains seventy-six children of school age. A school has been maintained in the section many years. The house now used has recently been repaired and refurnished.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

**DANIEL HOLMES.**—John S. Holmes, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch,

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters. The text suggests that organizations should implement robust systems to track income, expenses, and assets, ensuring that all data is up-to-date and easily accessible.

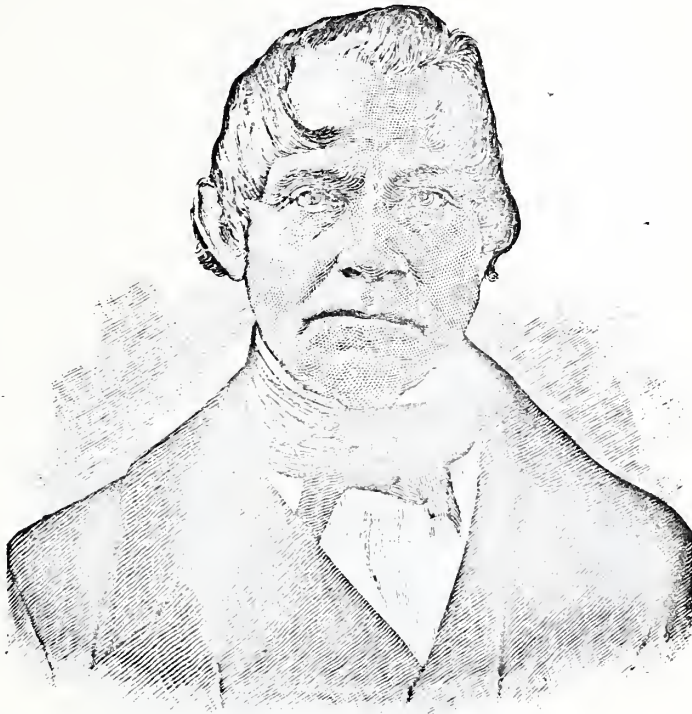
2. The second section focuses on the role of internal controls in preventing fraud and mismanagement. It outlines various measures that can be taken, such as segregation of duties, regular audits, and the establishment of clear policies and procedures. The document stresses that these controls are not just for compliance but are also vital for the long-term success and stability of the organization.

3. The third part of the document addresses the challenges of budgeting and financial planning. It provides insights into how to create realistic budgets, monitor spending, and adjust plans as needed. The text highlights the importance of communication between different departments to ensure that financial goals are aligned with the overall strategic vision of the organization.

4. The final section discusses the importance of regular reporting and communication with stakeholders. It suggests that organizations should provide clear, concise reports to investors, board members, and other interested parties. This not only helps in building trust but also allows for timely decision-making based on the latest financial information.

was a resident of Holmdel, now Middletown township, where his death occurred on the 15th of August, 1821. He early began his career as a merchant, but later removed to the farm now owned by his grandson, Joseph H. Holmes, where he followed successfully for many years the vocation of an agriculturalist. He married Sarah Hendrickson, whose death occurred August 28, 1824. Their children are Mary (wife of Albert Van Brunt), John H., Catherine (wife of Daniel H. Ellis), Emma (married to

death of his father, in 1821, he returned to the farm owned by the latter in Holmdel (now Middletown) township, and became interested in the labors attending its cultivation. Mr. Holmes was, on the 15th of November, 1813, married to Rhoda, daughter of Chrineyonce Van Mater, of Middletown township. To this union were born children,—Huldah (February 23, 1815), married to Joseph Holmes Longstreet, whose children are Rhoda H. and Lydia Anna; Catherine (June 9, 1817), wife of John W. Ely,



*Daniel H. Holmes*

George Taylor), Eleanor (wife of Charles Hasbrook) and Daniel. The last-named son was born on the 27th of December, 1792, at Baptisttown (now Holmdel), and spent his early years at the home of his parents. His father was at this time engaged in the business of a country merchant, in which he proved an invaluable assistant. He received his education at the neighboring school, and on the removal of the family to Matawan, in the same county, he embarked for three years in mercantile pursuits. On the

whose children are Daniel H., Eugene and John M.; John S. (September 2, 1819), who died March 2, 1820; Sarah (April 16, 1821), who died September 15, 1822; Joseph H., elsewhere mentioned in this volume; Maria Louisa (May 2, 1826), wife of Ely Conover; Sarah (January 13, 1829), wife of Rudolph P. Smock, whose children are Daniel H., Peter V. D. and Catherine H. Mr. Holmes, in connection with his farming enterprises, was also engaged in business pursuits at Holmdel for many years.





His political sympathies were with the Democratic party, whose principles he advocated with untiring zeal during a long and active life. This party, in recognition of his services, several times elected him to the State Legislature, as also to the office of sheriff of Monmouth County for one term. He was a member of the convention to revise the constitution of the State, and prominently mentioned as the nominee for Congressional honors. He was largely identified with township and county

ter of John and Ellen Bennet Schenck, whose children were Obadiah I., born December 5, 1807; John Schenck, born December 13, 1809; Sarah Ann (wife of Daniel D. Briggs), born February 1, 1812; Mary (wife of Benjamin Briggs), born January 2, 1814; and Daniel, born August 5, 1816. The birth of Obadiah I. Stillwell occurred on the homestead, at Bethany. Here he received, at the public school of the precinct, a rudimentary education,—all that was conveniently attainable at that date—and



*Obadiah I. Stillwell*

matters, and exercised a marked influence on the business and public interests of the portion of the State where he resided. His death occurred October 27, 1851, in his fifty-ninth year, and that of his wife on the 20th of January, 1838, in her forty-sixth year.

**OBADIAH I. STILLWELL.**—John O. Stillwell, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch resided in Bethany, Raritan township, Monmouth County. He married Mary, daughter

soon after decided upon a self-supporting trade, by which he might render himself independent of such vicissitudes as a changing fortune might bring. He chose that of a carpenter, became master of the craft, and returning again to the farm, engaged in its varied pursuits. The property was eventually purchased by him and continued to be his residence until 1859, when the attractive site now the residence of his daughter was purchased and became his home. He was, on the 20th of April, 1853, married to Miss



Mary Jane, daughter of John Longstreet, of Holmdel, their children being a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, and a son, John L., whose death occurred March 29, 1881. Mr. Stillwell was a man of modest demeanor, devoted to his chosen business occupations, and indifferent to the excitements attending public life. As a consequence, though in politics a firm Democrat, he avoided active participation in the political events of the time, and invariably declined office. He was an attendant upon the services of the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Holmdel. The death of Mr. Stillwell occurred on the 2d of October, 1873.

**JOHN S. LONGSTREET.**—The progenitor in America of the Longstreet family was Dirck Stoffelse Langestraat, who was twice married. He had four sons,—Stoffle, Adrian, Richard and Samuel—and one daughter, Classje. Adrian, of this number, was baptized in 1677, and died in 1728. He married, in 1707, Christina Janse, and had children,—John, Derick, Stoffle, Katreneke, Neeltje, Winnifred, Maria and Aarianche. From one of these sons is descended the grandfather of John S. Longstreet, who married Williampe Hendrickson, and had a son, John, who was united in marriage to Elizabeth Stoutenburgh. Their children were Hendrick, John S., Catherine, Anna (Mrs. John S. Crocheron), Williampe (Mrs. Henry Stoutenburgh), Mary J. (Mrs. O. I. Stillwell), William, Caroline L., Aaron, Elizabeth (Mrs. Thomas Ely) and one who died in youth. John S. Longstreet was born December 5, 1815, on the homestead at Holmdel, where his early opportunities for instruction were obtained, after which additional advantages were enjoyed in Massachusetts. Determining to make farming the business of his life, he at once entered upon the various responsibilities incident to the cultivation of the home farm. He was, on the 19th of October, 1843, married to Eleanor, daughter of Garret D. and Jane Hendrickson, of Marlborough. Mrs. Longstreet's death occurred February 28, 1844, and he was again married, June 26, 1849, to Sarah S. Hendrickson, sister of his first wife, whose children are Eleanor H., Jane A. (Mrs. William T. Hendrickson), Elizabeth (Mrs. John S. Hen-

drickson), Hattie H. and Garret. Mr. Longstreet, on his marriage, became by purchase the owner of a portion of the homestead, on which his family still resides. Here he was, during his lifetime, interested in the varied pursuits of an agriculturist, through precluded by feeble health from an active career. His political sentiments were strongly in favor of Democratic government, though not in any sense a politician nor an office-seeker. In matters of business his opinion was deferred to and his services often sought as guardian, executor and counselor. He was identified with the Holmdel and Keyport Turnpike Company as its president. Mr. Longstreet was a man of kindly nature, affectionate and tender in his home relations, charitable to the needy, and liberal in his support of the church and all projects tending to advance the cause of morality. His death occurred December 1, 1884, and his burial on his sixty-ninth birthday. His son Garret now cultivates the farm.

**JOSEPH H. HOLMES,** the grandson of John S. Holmes and Sarah Hendrickson, and the son of Daniel Holmes (an extended sketch of whom appears elsewhere) and his wife, Rhoda Van Mater, was born on the 28th of July, 1824, on the homestead which is his present residence. Here the earlier years of his life were spent, his studies, which were begun at the public school of the neighborhood, having been continued at Lawrenceville, N. J., under Rev. Samuel Hammill, D.D., and concluded at Lenox, Mass. On his return, at the age of seventeen, he assumed charge of the farm, and was thus engaged for a period of eight years. He was married, on the 19th of September, 1848, to Ann, daughter of James G. Crawford, of Raritan township. Their children are Carrie C., wife of Asher S. Ely; John S., married to Annie, daughter of James Lake; Daniel, of Colorado, and Lizzie, deceased. Mr. Holmes, on his marriage, made Barrentown, Atlantic township, his residence, but on the expiration of the second year returned to the homestead farm. This valuable property, which has been for four generations in the family, became his own by inheritance and purchase. By his judicious management its fertile fields have been rendered

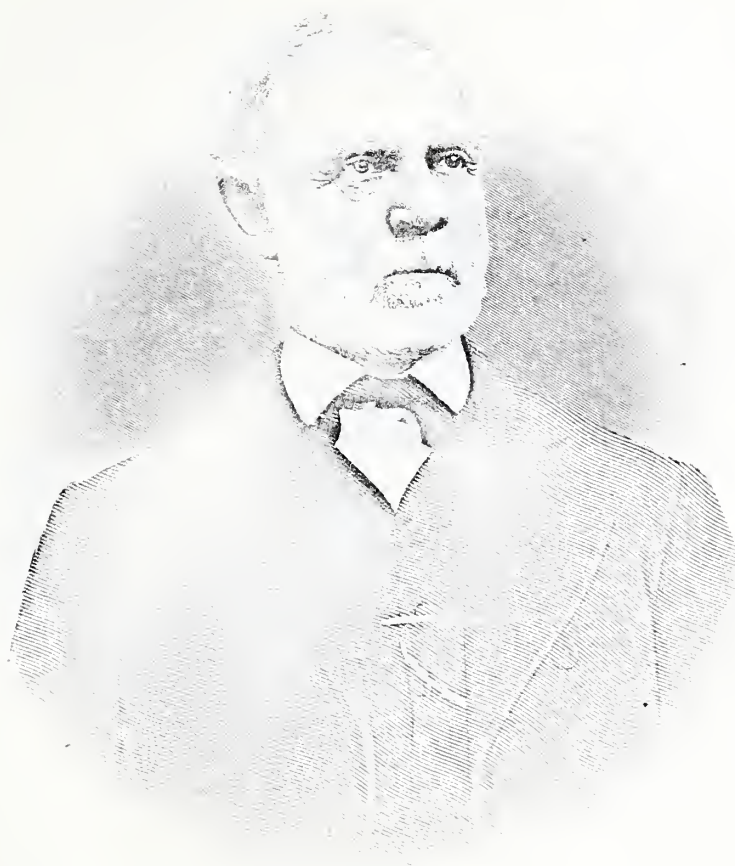






John S Longstreet





1  
*Jo. H. Holmes*







Engd by A. D. Ritchie

Chineyonce S. Holmes



still more productive, until it ranks in its annual yield second to none in the county. Mr. Holmes has devoted much attention to the breeding of fine horses, his experience and superior facilities having rendered his farm a favorite rendezvous for turfmen who desire stabling and the careful handling of their blooded stock. He is also largely engaged in the furnishing of supplies to turfmen and horsemen. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Holmes is not an active partisan nor a worker in the party ranks. He is identified with the business interests of the county as director of the Middletown Point Bank of Matawan, as also director and former treasurer of the Holmdel Fire Insurance Company and a former director of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, of which he is still a member and a zealous promoter of its aims and interests.

**CHRINEYONCE S. HOLMES.**—The progenitor of the Holmes family in Monmouth County was Rev. Obadiah Holmes, born in 1606, and married in 1636, who, on his emigration, in 1638, settled in Boston, and later in Rhode Island, where he was one of the pioneers in the Baptist faith. His death occurred in 1682. Though not for any length of time a resident of Monmouth County, he made frequent visits, aided in the organization of the first Baptist Church in the county and was a considerable purchaser of land within its boundaries. His two sons—Obadiah and Jonathan—came to America with their father, the latter of whom remained, settled in Monmouth County and was elected to official position in 1667. In the direct line of descent was Samuel, born about 1720, the great-grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch and a resident of Holmdel township, who married, in 1745, Mary, grand daughter of Penelope Stout. Among his sons was Joseph, who resided on the farm now owned by Chrineyonce S. Holmes, where he, in 1805, erected the dwelling at present occupied by the latter. Joseph Holmes married Nellie, daughter of John Schenck, of Holmdel (then Middletown) township, whose children were Jonathan, Elisha, John, Nellie and Mary (Mrs. Hendrick Longstreet). Jona-

than, of this number, was born in 1792, on the homestead, and spent his early youth at Brown's Point, returning, however, to the homestead, where the remainder of his life was spent. He filled the office of chosen freeholder and was identified with business, as also with public interests in the township. He married Eleanor, daughter of Chrineyonce Schenck, of Holmdel, whose children were Joseph, who died in infancy; Margaret (deceased), wife of Thomas W. Thorne; Mary; Ann Eliza (deceased), wife of Daniel S. Conover; Rhoda; Chrineyonce S.; Ellen, (deceased); Kate, wife of William L. Jones; and Huldah. The death of Mr. Holmes occurred in 1866, in his seventy-fourth year. Chrineyonce S. Holmes was born on the 22d of May, 1832, on the ancestral home, where he has remained until the present time, his earliest instruction having been received at the neighboring public school, after which he became a pupil of the Freehold Institute. The pursuits of the farmer Mr. Holmes found congenial to his tastes, and on completing his studies he became interested in the cultivation of the homestead lands, which, on the death of his father, in 1866, were inherited, and are now a portion of his property in Holmdel township. He was, on the 12th of January, 1870, married to Lydia A., daughter of Hendrick and Emeline Smock, of Holmdel. Mrs. Holmes died in April, 1872, leaving two children,—Jonathan I. and Henry L.,—after which event he was, on the 22d of November, 1876, married to Mary Schenck, widow of John W. Conover. Their children are Nellie S. and Chrineyonce. Mr. Holmes enjoys a reputation as one of the most discriminating and successful farmers of the township. He is identified by membership with the Monmouth County Agricultural Society, and is a director of the First National Bank of Keyport and of the Keyport and Holmdel Turnpike Company. He is also a director of the Holmdel Mutual Fire Insurance Company. A Democrat in his political preferences, Mr. Holmes never permits his enthusiasm to lure him to the acceptance of office, though a cordial supporter of the party and its candidates. His religious sentiments are in accord with the belief of his earliest ancestor, who founded the Baptist Church in the county.





**DANIEL P. SCHENCK.**—The Schencks of Monmouth County are all descended from Roelof Schenck Van Nydeck, who emigrated from Holland in 1650. A more lengthy sketch of the early members of the family appears elsewhere in this volume, rendering repetition here unnecessary. In the direct line was John, the great-grandfather of Daniel P., whose son Chrineyonce resided in Matawan, where he was a merchant. In 1809 he purchased the farm in Holmdel now owned by his grandson, and resided upon it until his death. He married Margaret Polhemus, whose children were John C., Daniel P., Eleanor (wife of Jonathan I. Holmes) and several who died in early youth.

John C. Schenck was born June 6, 1803, at Matawan, and died August 13, 1858. He accompanied his parents, when a lad, on their removal to the farm, and having inherited a portion of the property, made it his home. He married Margaret, daughter of Daniel Polhemus, and had children,—Daniel P., born October 19, 1827; Margaret, born in 1829, deceased; Sarah, in 1832, also deceased; Mary, in 1834 (Mrs. Chrineyonce S. Holmes); Lavinia, in 1836 (Mrs. George S. Jones); Catherine, in 1839, deceased; Eleanor, in 1841 (Mrs. Daniel R. Conover); Chrineyonce, in 1844, deceased; Sarah, in 1849 (Mrs. Wm. W. Taylor). The birth of Daniel P. Schenck occurred in Atlantic township, from which, at the age of seven, he removed to Manalapan township, and on his thirteenth year became a resident of the homestead farm at Holmdel. He improved such educational advantages as were possible with a few months of instruction in winter, and during the long spring and summer interval assisted in the cultivation of his father's land. On the 6th of January, 1851, he married Lavinia, daughter of Daniel D. Conover, of Atlantic township, and has children,—Sarah E., born November 3, 1851, and married to William C. Ely; Margaret S., born September 1, 1854, wife of John M. Ely; and Charles, born September 1, 1856, who died on the 30th of December of the same year. In 1852, Mr. Schenck purchased and remained for ten years the occupant of a farm in Holmdel township, and in 1862 returned to the homestead farm,

a portion of which he had meanwhile inherited, and purchased the remainder. Here he has since been devoted to agricultural pursuits, and is numbered among the prosperous farmers of his township. Mr. Schenck is director and treasurer of the Holmdel and Keyport Turnpike Company and the present superintendent of the road. He is also director of the Holmdel Fire Insurance Company, and director and treasurer of the Holmdel Cemetery Company. A Democrat in his political opinions, he is not active in the field of politics nor an aspirant for office. He is a liberal supporter of the Reformed (Dutch) Church at Holmdel, representing in this regard the traditional faith of the family.

**JOSEPH I. VAN MATER.**—The Van Mater family is one of the oldest in Monmouth County. Joseph Van Mater, the great-grandfather of Joseph I., was born February 5, 1710, and died October 15, 1792. He married Sarah Schenck, whose birth occurred December 3, 1734, and her death September 1, 1748. Their children were Nelly, born in 1735; Rudolph, in 1738; Cyrenus, in 1740; Katherine, in 1743; Chrineyonce, on the 23d of February, 1747. The last named married Huldah Holmes, of Holmdel, whose children were Joseph H., Holmes, Schenck, Rhoda (Mrs. Daniel Holmes), Catherine (Mrs. Joseph Van Mater), Mary (Mrs. William Lloyd). Joseph H. Van Mater was born in 1775 on the homestead in Holmdel, and received a thorough classical education at Princeton College, after which he adopted the law as a profession. The sudden death of his father, however, rendered his presence necessary in the settlement of a large estate, and abandoning the profession he had chosen, he engaged in the more healthful pursuits of an agriculturist. He married Miss Ann, daughter of Aaron and Mary Van Mater, whose birth occurred July 9, 1785. The children of this marriage are Huldah H., Aaron S., Mary P., Eliza Ann and Joseph I. Mr. Van Mater, while manifesting a laudable interest in public matters, and well informed on topics of contemporaneous interest, declined all proffers of office, content to win approval in his





*Daniel P. Schenebly*







Joseph L. Van Matre



chosen and congenial field,—that of the successful farmer. His death occurred October 10, 1860. His son, Joseph I., was born on the 25th of July, 1825, on the ancestral land in Holmdel township, and educated at Lawrenceville, N. J., Lenox, Mass., and at Princeton, N. J. Choosing the country as a home, he succeeded to the paternal acres, and has from that date to the present been engaged in the labors of the husbandman. He was, on the 18th of November, 1863, married to Eliza Morgan,

of the county. A Democrat in his political sentiments, his enthusiasm is confined to the casting of his ballot and an intelligent understanding of the great questions under discussion. His activity and zeal are more decidedly manifested in all Christian causes, the Holmdel Reformed (Dutch) Church having long included him on its membership roll and as one of its elders.

WILLIAM S. CRAWFORD.—Mr. Crawford,



*William S. Crawford*

daughter of Daniel Ayres, of Brooklyn Heights. Their children are Daniel Ayres, born August 11, 1865; Joseph Holmes, born February 20, 1867; Anne Morgan, born April 2, 1871; Jessie Ayres, born February 8, 1878; and Frederick Ayres, whose birth occurred February 8, 1878. Mr. Van Mater's interest in agriculture has led him to become a member of the Agricultural Society of the county; but aside from this he has declined all appointments, and interested himself but little in the various organizations

who resides upon land which has been for many generations in the family, is descended from John Crawford, who emigrated from Scotland to America in 1672. His grandfather John, married Caroline Field, of Middletown, whose children were William, John, James G., Andrew and Elnathan. James G., of this number, was born on the 29th of December, 1794, on the homestead, the lands of which he cultivated during his lifetime. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Smith, of the same town-





ship, whose children are Caroline (Mrs. Holmes Conover), born in 1819; Ann (Mrs. Joseph H. Holmes), born in 1821; Mary, in 1824; William S.; John J., in 1829, married to Mary Frost; James G., in 1833; and Elizabeth, in 1837. William S. Crawford, the subject of this biographical sketch, was born November 15, 1826, on the homestead, and received his earliest instruction at the public school of the neighborhood, after which additional advantages were enjoyed at Matawan. His grandfather's death, in 1834, made him heir to a portion of the farm, the remainder being inherited on the death of his father, in 1883. He had, on the completion of his studies, become interested in its management, and subsequently assumed entire charge of the property. Mr. Crawford was, in 1867, married to Emeline L., daughter of John S. Stillwell, of Holmdel. His routine of duties has left little opportunity for active participation in affairs connected with the county and township, and, as a consequence, he has simply cast his ballot,—that of the Democracy,—and left the appointments to office to more ambitious citizens. In his religious preferences Mr. Crawford is a Baptist, and worships with the Baptist Church of Keyport.

**CAPTAIN HENRY E. ACKERSON.**—Captain Ackerson, is of Dutch extraction, his great-grandfather having emigrated from Holland. A son of the latter, Garret by name, born in Rockland County, N. Y., married Dorcas Springsteen, and later removed to Warwick, Orange County, N. Y., having during this period been prominent as a captain in the Revolutionary struggle for independence. His children were John, Garret, James, Cornelius, Jane, Betsey and Mary. Cornelius, born in Warwick, in 1832 removed with his family to the farm in Holmdel township, Monmouth County, which is now the residence of his son, the subject of this biographical sketch. He married Sarah, daughter of Elijah Townsend, of Dutchess County, N. Y., and had children,—John T., William W., Maria A. (Mrs. Joseph Hoff), Henry E. and Ann Eliza (Mrs. Joseph H. Gibson). Henry E. Ackerson was born on the 24th of July, 1821, in Orange County, N. Y.,

and removed at an early age with his parents to Monmouth County. He received but limited educational advantages at the common schools, and was early instructed in the use of the plough, the harrow and other implements of the farm. At the age of twenty-one he cultivated the land on shares, continuing so to do while his father lived. On the death of the latter, and a consequent division of the estate, he received his patrimony and purchased the remaining shares. Since that date the chief business interest of his life has centred in the farm. Captain Ackerson, in 1865, became interested in a stock company owning the propeller "Holmdel," which for two years he commanded on her trips between Keyport and New York, but eventually gave his attention exclusively to the farm he still cultivates. He was, in 1840, married to Mary, daughter of William Hyer, of Matawan, their children being Sarah, wife of Daniel I. Stillwell; Cornelius, married to Anna B. Stillwell and Margaret (Mrs. George H. Melville). He was a second time married, to Ida V. M., daughter of Henry D. Hendrickson, of Holmdel, whose only child is a daughter, Elizabeth S. Captain Ackerson is a Democrat in his political belief, but not active in the field of politics, his attention being wholly given to his farming enterprises. The family adhere to the faith of the Reformed (Dutch) Church, which was the belief of their ancestors.

**WILLIAM BROWN** is the son of John Brown, of Toronto, Canada, where he was born on the 2d of February, 1825. Removing to the United States, he began his career as a professional trainer of thoroughbred horses, and acquired considerable reputation in developing the racing qualities of many noted horses. He was early employed by Mr. Richard Ten Broeck, and had charge of and crossed the ocean with that gentleman's stock which were sent to England in 1856, viz.,—"Lecompte," "Prior," "Prioress," "Starke" and "Optimist." He subsequently took over "Umpire," "Satellite," "Maggiore" and "Woodburn," the majority of whom distinguished themselves more or less on the English turf. On his return to America, Mr. Brown





*Henry C. Atkinson*





trained for Mr. Francis Morris, and brought out "Throgsneek," "Ruthless," "Remorseless," "Relentless," "Battle-Axe," "Boaster," "Monday" and others of good repute. Upon the formal opening of the Rancoeas stable he was engaged by Mr. P. Lorillard, under whose auspices he attained the zenith of his reputation as a trainer, having successfully brought out "Parole," "Shirley," "Zoo-Zoo," "Pera," "Spartan," "Perfection," "Bombast," "Bazil," "Faithless" and others. In 1879, Mr. Brown

farm in Monmouth County, N. J., which he had purchased in 1878, and where his death occurred on the 5th of July, 1881. On the occasion of his visit to England, Mr. Brown met and subsequently married, on the 9th of December, 1864, Miss Harriet Skilton, whose birth occurred September 8, 1838, the ceremony being performed in Reddington Church. Their children are William Richard, born January 13, 1866, and Minor, whose birth occurred March 17, 1874.



*William Brown*

was sent to England, and assumed the charge of Mr. Lorillard's Newmarket stable, winning with "Parole" the Newmarket Handicap, beating, among others, the great "Isonomy," and securing the City and Suburban Handicap, in which he cut down a field of eighteen, the Great Metropolitan Stakes, the Great Cheshire Handicap and the Epsom Gold Cup. After his second return to America, in 1880, Mr. Brown, finding his health somewhat impaired, retired to his

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### MATAWAN TOWNSHIP.

MATAWAN is the extreme northwestern township of Monmouth, its western and northwestern boundary being the county line of Monmouth and Middlesex. On the northeast it is bounded by Raritan Bay, on the east by the townships of Raritan and Holmdel and on the south and



southwest by the township of Marlborough. The only stream of any importance is Matawan Creek, which flows through the township from its southwest to its northeast extremity, where it enters Raritan Bay. On a line nearly parallel with the general course of Matawan Creek, the Freehold and Keyport Railroad (now known as the Freehold and New York Railway) traverses the township, connecting at Matawan village with the New York and Long Branch Railroad, which crosses Matawan in a southeasterly direction from the Middlesex line to that of Raritan township. By the United States census of 1880 the population of Matawan township was two thousand six hundred and ninety-nine.

Matawan township was erected by an act passed in 1857, which also erected the township of Holmdel, both these being formed of territory taken from the township of Raritan. The part of the act having reference to Matawan is as follows:

"Also, all that part of the township of Raritan contained within the following boundaries and lines: that is to say, beginning in the division line between the townships of Marlborough and Raritan, at the northeast corner of said township of Marlborough, near the house of Samuel Beers; from thence running in a northerly direction in a straight line to the intersection of the road leading from Beers' corner to Mount Pleasant with the road leading from Brown's Point to Holmdel; thence northerly along the centre of the last-named road to the intersection of said road with the road leading from Mechanicsville to the Middletown Point and Keyport Plank-Road; thence in a northwesterly direction in a straight line to the mouth of Mohingson Creek, where it empties into Matawan Creek; thence down the middle of said Matawan Creek to the mouth of said Matawan Creek, where it empties into the Raritan Bay; thence along the shore of said Raritan Bay to the division line between the counties of Monmouth and Middlesex (being the division line between the township of Raritan and the said county of Middlesex) to the line of the township of Marlboro'; thence easterly along the division line between the townships of Marlboro' and Raritan to the place of beginning is set off from the township of Raritan and made a separate township, to be called Matawan."

Following is a list of the chosen freeholders of Matawan township from its erection to the present time, viz.:

1857-58. Aaron Longstreet.

1859-70. William S. Horner.

1871-72. Joseph Rose.

1873. Edward Black.

1874-81. John H. Farry.

1882. John H. Harvey.

1883-84. William A. Dunlap.

The early settlers at Middletown Point (now Matawan) were Scotch, and the name of "New Aberdeen" was given to the place before 1690. The names, "Middletown Point" and "Middletown Point Landing" had obtained before 1768, as in March of that year mention is made of a road being laid by way of Mount Pleasant to Middletown Point Landing, "near the school-house on said point." The settlement seems first to have been at Mount Pleasant, where a church, a school-house and burial-place were located, not far from 1740. A headstone bearing that date was found a few years since. It is evident that the point was a landing for vessels at the time the road was laid out in 1768.

The following account, published in the *Monmouth Democrat* in 1874, shows that during the Revolution John Burrowes was carrying on an extensive business, and owned mills and store-houses at the Point. The narrative (which has reference to an incursion by Tory Refugees from Staten Island) is as follows:

"The object of this raid on that early June morning (it was just after midnight) in 1778, upon the house of John Burrowes (now the residence of Dr. Pitman, Matawan), was the capture of his only son, John, Jr., an officer in the patriot army, whose expected presence at home that night was discovered by spies, and information given. But friends, too, were on the alert, and a sufficient warning was given to allow Major Burrowes to escape through the back door in his night-clothes, swim the creek and elude his pursuers. The Refugees, secure of their victim, were desperate at finding he had escaped. The shout went up 'Seize the old corn merchant,' and in the language of the ancient papers referred to, they made him prisoner, burnt his mills and both his store-houses,—all valuable buildings,—besides a great deal of furniture. The existence of the house proves that something escaped the conflagration; but how, tradition does not inform us. By early dawn a messenger reached Freehold to inform Dr. Henderson (a son-in-law of Mr. Burrowes) of the capture. The message was no sooner received than the doctor, a man prompt to act and firm in resolve, determined to take a few tried men of his command (he was lieutenant-colonel), proceed to Middletown, secure the person of William Taylor, a prominent citizen who was suspected of fa-





voring the Loyalists, and lodge him in the county jail. The expedition, favored and aided by Colonel Wikoſſ, of Manalapan, was successful, and a dispatch informed Sir Henry Clinton that William Taylor was held as a hostage for John Burrowes. An exchange was effected, and the howl of indignation at so high-handed a measure was unheeded by those who saw no other means of rescue from the sorrows of death in a prison-ship."

With reference to the condition, during the time of the Revolution, of the place which is now Matawan, Hon. William Spader, in an address delivered July 4, 1876, says,—

"As far as I have been able to learn, there were very few houses in our village one hundred years ago. The house now occupied by Dr. Pitman, and built before the Revolution by a Mr. Burrowes, has a history of itself. The old building known as the hospital and the house occupied by Dr. Ness are the only relics we have of Revolutionary architecture. The latter (Mr. Ness') was built by Peter Schenck, who fled for his life when a party of British marauders were plundering and committing other acts of violence, besides burning the mill which stood near what is now called the red store-house of Fountain Horner & Company. The west side of the Main Street belonged to one Richard Francis, and I have a map of the same, in which it is proposed by Richard Thockmorton to sell in lots or sections all the land between the Gully Bridge on the south, to Forman Street, or street leading to a wharf below J. N. Disbrow's. There is no date to the map. It contains fifty-seven acres of land. The Francis homestead stood on this tract, near the present bank. I also find the names of Carhart, Vanderhoof, Conover, Forman, Burrowes, Walker, Quay, Ellis, etc., among the business men. How many of the present inhabitants are descendants of the above I am unable to say, but some of the Vanderhoof descendants are living among us.

Previous to 1800 there was a potash-factory near the present pottery, and a brickyard was in operation here before 1825 upon the property of the late G. P. Conover. There was a grist-mill at the lower end of the town, upon or near the site of the store-house of Fountain Horner & Company, which was burned during the war. Another building was erected in 1809 and used as a mill, afterwards converted into a store-house. The store, which was occupied by Mr. Ness, and which was burned in 1852, was built in 1800 by Colonel James Conover, who occupied it a short time, then by John Quay. Quay, in addition to store business, built a packing-house and bought and packed pork; also a smoke-house for smoking the same. Quay, besides keeping store, sailed a packet to New York called the "Republican." This property and business afterwards was conducted by Lewis

Conover and his brothers, Joseph and John; again, in 1812, it became the business of Messrs. Little.

"The early mercantile history of the place prior to 1812 I could learn but little about. A store was kept previous to that time by a Mr. Quay on the corner of Forman Street, or the street leading to the wharf. And since that time Messrs. Robert and William Little, Van Mater and Hartshorne, and, later, Messrs. Fountain and others, who successfully added to the interests and prosperity of the town, and also, by strict attention to business, added to their pecuniary affairs.

"From 1812 the slooping or freighting interests were carried on very successfully, and continued to be until steamboating superseded sloops. The sloops were the only mode of conveying people to New York City, and many amusing stories are told of the trials, fatigues and detentions the people underwent during the three or four days' journey to New York. This slooping business deserves more than a passing notice. In the early part of the century a regular weekly line of sloops or packets carried all the produce raised in Monmouth County that found a market in New York, and, in fact, during that time it was the only shipping-point on our shore,—the point of export and entry of Monmouth County. Corn, which was at that time the principal county staple, together with flour, during the War of 1812 were carried across the State from Bordentown, and found a point of shipment at Middletown Point."

"I have been told," says Mr. Spader, "there was a school-house standing on the spot where Mrs. Holt now lives." It is possible the school-house mentioned in the road record of March, 1768, was the one remembered by some of the old residents. In 1807, at the time when war was expected to result from the "Chesapeake" outrage, Captain Philip Holmes and Captain Mathias Van Vraekle, of Middletown Point, each offered the services of their company to the government. William Little, in 1815, was carrying on business alone. In that year Garret P. Conover went into the store as clerk, and in 1822 became a partner with him. Two years later Mr. Conover built a new store and carried it on many years. Mr. Little continued business for a short time at the store which stood on the corner opposite the Methodist Church. William Ness succeeded him, and in 1837, James Little opened a store at the old stand. Mr. William Little retired from the mercantile business and became cashier of the bank in 1821, besides being interested in the Navigation Company. Asher Fountain began business in 1822 with



**James Frost.** They opened a dry-goods and grocery-store where the building now occupied by the office of Rens. W. Dayton stands. Mr. Frost retired, and Benjamin Briggs, Jr., became a partner, and later William S. Horner also became a partner.

Of Middletown Point (now Matawan,) in 1834, Gordon's "Gazetteer," published in that year, says: "It lies on a bank elevated about fifty feet above the stream, fronting a marsh on the opposite side; contains a Presbyterian Church, from seventy-five to one hundred dwellings, many of which are very good buildings, eight or ten stores, four taverns and a grist-mill. This is the market of an extensive country, and large quantities of pork, rye, corn, cord-wood and garden truck are thence sent to New York."

In 1834 a meeting was held, May 20th, at the hotel of Tunis J. Ten Eyck, for the purpose of procuring a steamboat for the trade with New York. The firm of Fountain, Horner & Co. were running sloops to the city, but the increased business required greater facilities for transportation. The packet sloop "Monmouth" ran regularly between Middletown Point and Washington Market, New York, William S. Horner, master. In 1839, J. W. Fountain was master. The steamboat company was formed in 1834;<sup>1</sup> but did not succeed in getting a steamboat until 1837, when the following advertisement of the line was issued:

"Capt. G. Hiers states that 'the new low-pressure steamboat 'Monmouth' will run during the months of April and May from the foot of Robinson street, New York, to Middletown Point, touching at Seguin's Dock, Staten Island and Key Port. Fare to and from Middletown Point, 50 cents. On the arrival of the boat at Middletown Point a stage will leave for Monmouth Court-House.' Stages also ran from Long Branch, Red Bank and Shrewsbury in connection with this boat."

The officers of the company were Samuel Mairs, president; William Little, Thomas I. Bedle and G. S. Crawford, directors; and Francis P. Simpson, secretary.

On the 12th of November, 1840, the steamboat "Hope," Captain Green, commenced to run from

Middletown Point to New York, and June 9, 1842, the steamboat "Rockland" also was in the line. Fountain, Horner & Co. continued their business running steamers and sloops. The sloop "Banner" was the first one this firm put on. Later they added the sloop "Oregon," Captain William S. Horner, and the "William S. Horner," Captain Aaron H. Hopkins. On the 1st of April, 1841, Mr. Griggs retired from the firm and Daniel S. Stillwell became a partner. About 1842 the firm built the brick store now occupied by Smith Brothers. Mr. Fountain remained in active business until 1876, when he retired.

In 1834, Francis P. Simpson & Co. opened a lumber-yard. In 1853, Mr. Simpson built a new brick store, two stories in height, with a large room in the second story, thirty by sixty feet, and seventeen feet in height, for public uses. This was called Washington Hall, and is still in use.

Thomas I. Bedle came to Middletown Point in 1827, and opened a shoe-store. In 1835 he went into the mercantile business, which he continued until 1871, when he retired. Governor Joseph D. Bedle was born in this village, in the old Woodhull house.

The first hotel at Middletown Point, in the memory of those now living, was the one afterwards known as the Union, and was kept by Derrick Whitlock. It stood about fifty yards west of the Matawan Hotel. It was owned by William Little and was kept by Tunis J. Ten Eyck, John Campbell, Benjamin Crook and others. It was abandoned as a hotel about 1874. The Matawan Hotel was built for a dwelling-house and rebuilt as a hotel by Tunis J. Ten Eyck.

The post-office was established in 1815, when Cornelius P. Vanderhoof was appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by William Little, who held the office from 1820 to 1853. His successors have been George W. Bell, 1853-60; Jacob R. Schenck, 1860-62; Rens. W. Dayton, 1862 to the present time.

The Middletown Point Navigation Company was organized in 1837, for the purpose of improving the navigation of the river. William Little, Garret P. Conover and Simeon Arrowsmith were appointed commissioners to receive subscriptions. The books were opened for that purpose May 6, 1837, "at the house of Benjamin Crook,

<sup>1</sup>The first steamboat running to Middletown Point was put on in 1831, by Captain Bent. She ran only about six months.





Inn-keeper, at the Village of Middletown Point." The channel was cleared under the operations of this company, but the business of the place, which had for many years been an important shipping point, was destined to go down. The younger rival, Keyport, gradually, but surely, absorbed it all, and now Middletown Point as a landing-place has little left but the name, which is fast passing into disuse.

The earliest physician of this vicinity, of whom any information has been obtained, was Dr. Peter Le Conte, who was located at Middletown Point as early as 1734, and was one of the officers of the old Presbyterian Church at that place. He was a native of this country, but of Norman parentage. In 1735 he married Mary Pintard, who died in the same year, and he soon after married Valeria, daughter of John Eaton. He died in 1768, aged sixty-six years, and was buried in the old ground at Mount Pleasant.

Dr. Charles McKnight was a physician of this locality in 1777, in which year he was taken prisoner at the time the old Presbyterian Church was burned by the British and Refugees.

Dr. William G. Reynolds came to this place about 1815, and remained in practice about ten years; then removed to New York.

Dr. David English came to Matawan in 1824, went into partnership with Dr. Reynolds and succeeded to the full practice when the latter removed to New York, in 1825. He continued a few years till his health failed, when he retired from practice.

Dr. Alfred B. Dayton came to this place in 1835, and remained in practice here until his death, in 1870.

Dr. Judson G. Shackelford was in practice here many years. He died in 1883.

The present physicians of Matawan are Drs. A. T. Jackson and Dr. Knecht.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT MATAWAN is very ancient. The Rev. Elihu Spencer, who was pastor of the Shrewsbury Presbyterian Church from 1761 to 1764, mentioned preaching at Middletown Point (now Matawan), where there was a congregation at that time, and which, in 1766, united with Shrewsbury in calling the Rev.

Charles McKnight. Its condition was nearly the same as the Shrewsbury Church for many years, each being without even a supply, yet keeping their organization.

Of this church, Mr. Spader, in his address delivered July 4, 1876, says: "There was at Mount Pleasant a building used as a church, upon a ground donated by a Mr. Wyckoff. It was situated upon a beautiful green, covered by large trees, and was a sort of a rallying-point at the commencement of the Revolution, in case of alarm, and to discuss matters pertaining to their situation. In the year 1778 the building was burned and was not rebuilt until 1798, when a church was again built, partly by lottery and partly by gifts of timber, etc., from farmers. It was intended by the donors as a place of worship for all denominations; but in time it became the property of the Presbyterians, who sold the same, and in 1841 built the present church. Rev. Eli F. Cooley became the pastor in 1820, and it is evident from manuscripts left by him that there was a Presbyterian organization in this place before the war, as the church was under the care of the Rev. Charles McKnight, who was in prison during the war, and died soon after his release." Mr. Cooley served three years and retired in April, 1823. The church was supplied until 1828, when the Rev. Clifford S. Ames commenced to labor with them, and continued until 1832. On March 5th, the next year, the Rev. George S. Woodhull was installed, and continued till his death, December 25, 1834. He was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph L. Shafer as a stated supply until November 6, 1838, when the Rev. Charles Webster was installed as regular pastor, and continued until April 24, 1849. The Rev. John M. Rogers was soon after called, and was installed February 20, 1850. His labors continued until July 7, 1867, when he resigned. He was succeeded, January 27, 1869, by the Rev. James O. Denniston, who resigned, after two years' service, on the 3d of January, 1871. He was followed, October 13th in the same year, by the Rev. J. Henry Kaufman, who continued till his death, October 27, 1873. His successor, the Rev. J. M. Anderson, was installed June 30, 1874. He remained until December 13, 1881, and resigned. The Rev. W. H. Ford accepted a call in April, 1882, and began his labors June 1st in that year.



He resigned in April, 1883, and was succeeded by the present pastor, the Rev. Robert Kent, who was installed December 11, 1883.

The church building, erected in 1841, as already mentioned, has since been enlarged and materially improved. Lecture and Sunday-school rooms were added in 1877. The membership of the church is now two hundred.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MATAWAN,<sup>1</sup> as an organization, is less than thirty-five years old; but the history of the Baptist cause in Matawan antedates the origin of the church by some twenty or more years. As early as 1830, and perhaps a year or two previous to that, Father Roberts, then pastor of the church at Middletown, occasionally visited this village, and preached at the residence of Mrs. Rachel Bent. Meetings also were held sometimes at the residence of Mr. John Disbrow, grandfather of Marshal John N. Disbrow.

At a later period the Rev. James Goble, pastor of the old church at Jacksonville, occasionally preached at the tavern of Mr. James Lockerman, at the lower end of the village. After this the Rev. J. M. Carpenter, while pastor of the church at Jacksonville, resided for two years in the village of Middletown Point, and, as opportunity afforded, met the people at different places to counsel and instruct, as well as preach the gospel to them. About these days Father Elliot, an aged and somewhat infirm Baptist minister, was in the habit of making occasional visits to this community, and was always willing and ready to preach to the people as long as they were willing to hear him.

These occasional and irregular meetings of the Baptists of Middletown Point and vicinity were continued till after the organization of the church at Keyport, and the settlement of the Rev. William V. Wilson as its pastor. Immediately upon his entering upon his labors there, Matawan was made one of his out-stations. He preached regularly once a month at the Mount school-house, and perhaps as often at the Morgan school-house, which was three miles above, on the Freehold road. On the occasions of his preaching at

these out-stations, he had to perform a Sabbath day's journey of nearly thirty miles, in addition to the preaching of three sermons. After awhile, there being at and around these out-stations a considerable number of members, principally connected with the churches at Keyport and Jacksonville, a desire was felt that they might enjoy the ordinance of the Lord's Supper in connection with their regular meetings for worship. This desire was complied with, and the Rev. William V. Wilson administered the ordinance regularly in the Mount school-house for some years before the church was formed. Thus the way was thoroughly prepared for an independent church organization.

In 1849 the Baptist interest and element in this community had so increased that the Rev. William V. Wilson encouraged the erection of a meeting-house in the village. In December of that year a lot was purchased of Thomas I. Bedle, Esq., above the stone bridge, for which the sum of two hundred dollars was paid, and immediately steps were taken to build. During the following year, 1850, a very neat and commodious house of worship was completed and dedicated to the worship of God. The Rev. Dr. Somers, of the South Baptist Church, New York, preached the dedication sermon. Among those not immediately connected with the Baptist denomination, who manifested great interest in the erection of this house, and rendered constant and untiring services, and who, after the organization of the church, served for many years as most valuable and efficient members of the board of trustees, were Thomas I. Bedle, Esq., and Edward Black.

On the 22d day of October, 1850, thirty-two persons, having met in the new meeting house for that purpose, organized themselves into the First Baptist Church of Middletown Point. Twenty of these had letters from the church at Keyport; four from the church at Holmdel; one from the church at Middletown; two from the Amity Street Church, New York; three from the church at Old Bridge; and two from the South Church, New York. These thirty-two adopted what is known as the New Hampshire Declaration of Faith and Covenant, and at once—*i. e.*, before their first meeting as a church was dismissed—elected the Rev. Job Gaskill to be their pastor, and John Van Bracle and Ryncar Suydam deacons. Mr. Gas-

<sup>1</sup>The history of this church is furnished by the pastor, the Rev. F. A. Slater.





kill had been laboring in and around Middletown Point for six or eight weeks previous, as missionary of the State Convention.

On the 23d of October a council, which had been called for that purpose, met in the new meeting-house to consider the propriety of giving the newly-organized church denomination recognition. The council was composed of the Rev. D. B. Stout, of Middletown; Rev. William Nice, of Holmdel; Rev. Joseph Beldon, of Freehold; Rev. L. F. Stelle, of Old Bridge; Rev. William V. Wilson and Deacon James Sproul, of Keyport; Rev. J. M. Carpenter, of Perth Amboy; Rev. R. T. Middleditch and Deacons Joseph and William Smith, of Red Bank; and Rev. J. R. Stone and Deacons Martin and Ulzat, of the Berean Church of New York. The Rev. D. B. Stout was moderator of the council, and Rev. William V. Wilson was clerk. The services of recognition were in the following order: Reading of the Scripture, Rev. Joseph Beldon; Sermon, Rev. J. R. Stone; Charge to the Church, Rev. William V. Wilson; Hand of Fellowship, Rev. D. B. Stout, and Prayer by Rev. J. M. Carpenter.

The untiring labors of the pastor, the Rev. Job Gaskill, so impaired his health that he was compelled, after but four and a half months of labor, to resign his office and leave the field. On the 1st of March, 1851, the Rev. D. F. Twiss, at that time connected with the churches at Little Washington and Herbertsville, was called to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Mr. Gaskill. In commencing his labors, Mr. Twiss gave particular attention to the financial interests of the church and the claims of the benevolent societies and denominational enterprises, but he did not neglect in any manner or degree the spiritual interests of the church and congregation. His labors were very acceptable, and he won a large place in the confidence and affections of the church and people of the town. Mr. Twiss was greatly afflicted in his family and person, yet he toiled in every possible way to promote the interests of the church. Death invaded his home and took from them their four remaining children; disease preyed upon his wife, and finally, after two years and seven months' labor, bleeding of the lungs and entire prostration of physical strength compelled him to resign his pastorate, October 23, 1853. Mr. Twiss continued

his residence at Middletown Point and his membership with the church for three or four years after resigning the pastorate, and, by his wise counsels and ever-ready co-operation, did excellent service for the church.

On the 1st of June, 1854, the church having been without a pastor for seven months, the Rev. J. W. Crumb, of Clifton Park, N. Y., was called to serve the church, and at once entered upon the duties of a pastor. He continued with the church four years, during which time a great deal of arduous and successful work was done. Mr. Crumb interested himself in every department of church-work, and regarded nothing too hard or too much for him to undertake.

On Sunday, the 14th of February, 1858, the meeting-house was totally destroyed by fire. This occurred just as the congregation began to assemble for worship. The calamity was greatly enhanced by an oversight or negligence, which had allowed the policy of insurance to expire some time before and failed to have it renewed. So everything was swept away, except the ground on which the house stood. The pastor had signified his intention to close his labors with the coming May; the church had no house in which to meet for worship, and other circumstances conspired to render their condition peculiarly discouraging.

The Rev. Mr. Crumb closed his labors with the month of May. In the meantime Washington Hall had been secured for holding the meetings of the church. The pulpit committee engaged the services of the Rev. A. H. Bliss as a supply for two or three months. After him the pastor of the church at Keyport, Rev. F. A. Slater, supplied them with an afternoon service until the settlement of the Rev. J. E. Barnes as pastor. The date of his settlement was November 1, 1859. Mr. Barnes continued with the church only two years, but during that time a vast amount of work was performed, the chief of which, aside from regular pastoral labor, was the building of the present comfortable and inviting house of worship. Mr. Barnes excelled as a preacher, and conducted the enterprise of building the new house to a successful issue, at an expense of about three thousand three hundred dollars. In this he was sustained by the membership of the church, and especially by Deacon Rynear Suydam, who for a season gave up his own



business and devoted himself wholly to raising funds and otherwise advancing the important work. Mr. Barnes closed his pastorate January 30, 1862.

On the 6th of July following, Mr. R. G. Farley, a recent graduate of Rochester University, was called to the pastoral office, and soon after ordained by a council called by the church for that purpose. His pastorate continued three years and a half, during which time the church paid off a debt of about fourteen hundred dollars. Mr. Farley devoted himself with untiring energy and purpose until the debt was entirely removed.

On the 1st of October, 1866, the present pastor, the Rev. F. A. Slater, undertook the oversight of the church. At that time it was greatly reduced, both in membership and financial strength. At one time in its previous history its membership numbered nearly a hundred, but less than fifty could be found when he entered upon his pastorate. And its pecuniary strength was so reduced that they hardly dare attempt to raise three hundred dollars towards helping support the pastor. During Mr. Slater's pastorate of more than eighteen years nearly as much has been expended in repairs and improvements upon the meeting-house as it cost in the beginning; and the present membership of the church is one hundred and seventy-six.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF MAT-AWAN has now had an existence of fifty-eight years,—dating its real beginning from the first formation of a class here in 1826. Methodist preaching, however, had been held here fully forty years before that time, the first of which there is any account being by regular appointments, at the house of a Mrs. Frances, who was then the only Methodist in the place, and whose house stood on or very near the site of the present bank building. Thomas Morrell, Aaron Hutchinson and Joseph Cromwell, ministers well-known in Methodist history, preached in that house while this part of New Jersey was yet included in the Philadelphia Conference, and about five years before the Freehold Circuit was formed. The circuit is supposed to have covered all the territory from New Brunswick round to Tuckerton, and is not mentioned in the Conference Minutes until 1793, at which time the presiding elder was Rev. William Merriek.

The Rev. John Fountain was a native of Maryland, of French descent. His parents were Episcopalian, and when he joined the Methodists, he, in consequence, was obliged to leave his father's house and seek another home. Nothing further is known of his early days or subsequent history, save that he became a minister, and was a member of the Philadelphia Conference, and as such traveled and preached through a large section of this State and throughout this region. An injury received through his horse taking fright and throwing him from the wagon necessitated him to locate, which he did about 1797, and settled in the neighborhood of what is now Jacksonville, then and long after known as Cheesequakes. He was well known throughout a large section of country surrounding, and so frequently and generally was he called upon to officiate in his ministerial capacity at funerals and weddings that it appears the people for miles surrounding depended on him for the services necessary on such occasions. A record of marriages, in his own handwriting, extending from 1797 to 1835, shows that no less than four hundred and six marriage services were performed by him.

The number of members on the entire circuit was four hundred and fifty-three. During the interval between 1793 and 1807 there is no account of any preaching in this vicinity. But from 1807 to 1822 there was a regular appointment at the house of the father of Rev. Francis Murphy, in the Bethany neighborhood.

In 1822 the church at Bethany was built, and became the centre of Methodism in this section for some years. But from the date first mentioned, 1788, up to the year 1826, no other account of any other preaching at or near Middletown Point could be obtained than that the Rev. John Fountain preached occasionally in the old church that formerly stood by or in the graveyard, near which the Mount school-house now stands. That church was built (it is said by lottery) on the site of one that was burned during the Revolution. It was built by the public for the use of all denominations, and was used by the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists alternately, but eventually came to be occupied by the Presbyterians only, and was sold to pay arrearages of salary due Rev. Mr. Shafer, when it became a barn on the farm where Mr. Peter V. Hier now lives, and finally was





burned. Some time in the year 1826, Joel Aumack and wife, who lived in a house that stood near where Mr. Peter Cortelyou now resides, and Elisha Walling and wife, who lived at Middletown Point, while attending meetings held in the Bethany Church, were all converted. Soon after prayer-meetings were held at the house of Elisha Walling, and occasionally class-meetings. The first regular class was formed about this time, which was the nucleus of this church, and consisted of six persons. The leader of the class was Joseph Carhart, who lived at Bethany. The six members were Joel Aumack and wife, Elisha Walling and wife, John Summerhays and Ann Van Pelt. The class-meetings were held every two weeks at the house of Joel Aumack, Mount Pleasant.

In 1827, and until 1831, there was regular preaching at the residence of Elisha Walling, which stood on the present site of E. H. Dayton's residence. The first sermon preached, according to the recollection of Joel Carhart, was by a Mr. Sweeny, from the text, "Who will show us any good?"

The presiding elder at that time was Rev. Charles Pitman, and the preachers were Revs. L. Prettyman, R. W. Petherbridge, John Woolston, J. L. Gilder, Isaac Felch and Thomas Neal. The only place open for Methodist preaching was the house of Elisha Walling, and because of his removal, it was changed to the home of Joel Aumack, a mile from the village, where it was continued from 1831 to the fall of 1835. Prayer-meetings were held also at the house of James Stoney, still standing, and midway between Mount Pleasant and Morganville. During these years Revs David Bartine, T. G. Stewart and Mulford Day preached there.

In the fall of 1835 the appointment was again changed to the village. Joel Carhart, converted at Bethany, having married the Ann Van Pelt referred to as one of the first six, moved to the village, and regular services were established at his house.

In 1836 there was preaching in an old shop which stood nearly opposite the present church. During this year a lot was purchased, and Rev. Mulford Day, with Joel Carhart, made an effort to secure the means for building a church. They

met with much opposition, and were told that this was preoccupied ground, and a Methodist Church was not needed here. But amid many discouragements they erected it, at a cost of about eighteen hundred dollars. This church was dedicated about the 14th of December, 1836. The location was on Jackson Street. There had been much difficulty in securing a lot, the pioneers being obliged to take what they could get; and it was said by some in their bitterness that the location among the barns was good enough. About eighteen years afterwards this building was sold to Mr. Hubbard, who removed it to Main Street. The entire membership at this time was about twenty-five; five of these were colored people. The place was yet included in Freehold Circuit. The next spring (1837) it was connected with High Point Circuit.

A Sabbath-school was organized in April, 1837, with Joel Carhart superintendent. The teachers were William J. Wooley, Augustus Fountain, Henry Van Horn, Stephen Aumack, Daniel Van Cleaf, Mary A. Carhart, Mary W. Stillwell, Eliza Fountain, Emeline Walling, Elizabeth Roberts, Elizabeth Vanderhoof and Ann E. Carhart. Fifty-four scholars composed the school. The names were James T. Fountain, James H. Hornor, George B. Day, William Van Cleaf, William Van Horn, Jacob Smock, David Carhart, Alfred Crook, Andrew Van Horn, William Smock, Charles W. Fountain, Charles Crook, C. G. Harris, Charles H. Roberts, John Van Cleaf, Daniel Roberts, G. Simmons, Albert Fountain, John Fountain, John W. Simmons, Charles Farrington, Reuben Harris, Henry W. Harris, John Giles, Harriet B. Day, Amanda Aumack, Elizabeth Carhart, Catharine Van Cleaf, Maria Harris, Hannah Van Horn, Mary Ann Carhart, Catharine J. Smock, Sarah Van Horn, Sarah A. Hornor, Caroline Price, Henrietta Bedle, Sarah Price, Eleanor Van Pelt, Susan Roe, Margaret Gravatt, Rachel Cottrell, Hannah Tice, Elmira West, Margaret Carhart, Maria Van Cleaf, Susanna Giles. *Colored*: Simon Van Cleaf, Betty Sheno, Jane Willet, Oliver Holmes, Clarissa Van Cleaf, Catharine Perrine.

Joel Carhart served four years as superintendent, and was succeeded by George W. Bell and Augustus Fountain, each of whom served one



year. In 1843, A. H. Harris was appointed, and he remained until February, 1877 (a period of nearly thirty-four years), when David A. Bell was elected his successor.

For ten years after its opening, the Sabbath-school had no sessions in the winter-time, but when the experiment was tried, it was found that the children would attend in winter as well as in the summer, and since 1847 it has been held the year round. In 1855, when the school entered the present church building, it numbered seventy-two scholars, under the following-named teachers: Asbury Fountain, E. D. Gravatt, Charles W. Fountain, P. G. Snedeker, Constantine Bell, William A. Fountain, Euphemia Bedle, Eliza Crook, Lydia A. Walling, Angeline W. Carhart, Margaret Allen, Eliza Fountain, Mary Smith, Margaret Smith.

After the church was built (1837) the weekly prayer-meetings were held in the building opposite Washington Hall. Originally it was a one-story building, used for a wheelwright-shop by Joel Carhart, who added another story, making a school-room of the upper part, and in that room the week-night services were held until 1841, when Asbury Fountain built a lecture-room adjoining the church, on Jackson Street.

The church continued its connection with High Point Circuit until 1840, under the care of Revs. Mulford Day, J. Loudenslager, G. S. Wharton, Samuel Jaquet, N. Chew, T. T. Campfield, James Long and L. R. Dunn. Mr. Dunn had preached but a part of two years under the presiding elder; hence was not a member of the Annual Conference. While on this circuit he was instrumental in starting the church at Keyport. It was by the Quarterly Conference of this church that he was recommended to the Annual Conference, as was also Rev. William Franklin.

Nothing like a revival occurred until 1840, when meetings were continued nine weeks, and about twenty-five persons were added, more than doubling its members.

In 1841 the church was set off as a station, with Rev. Zerubbabel Gaskill as pastor, who remained in charge until 1842. From then until 1854 the following elders and pastors were in charge: Elders, D. Parish, J. Winner, J. K. Shaw and W. A. Wilmer; Pastors, J. O. Rogers, Wesley Robertson,

L. R. Dunn, A. M. Palmer, W. H. Jeffreys and E. M. Griffith. These pastors and their successors occupied a number of different residences until 1868, when the present parsonage was built, and has since been occupied by the successive pastors.

The debt of four hundred dollars on the old Jackson Street Church building increased, and at the end of six years from the dedication had reached seven hundred dollars. A strong effort was made to reduce it, Joel Carhart spending some time in soliciting aid from other churches, so that it was reduced again to four hundred dollars. The location of the old church was an unfavorable one, and this, with the growth of the congregation, made the necessity for improved accommodations apparent, and in 1851 the matter was taken into serious consideration, but was for the time abandoned. Three years later, during the ministry of Rev. E. M. Griffith, the trustees again took the matter of building into consideration; a lot was secured with some difficulty; the sum of five thousand dollars was raised, and on the 13th of June, 1854, the corner-stone of the present church building was laid. On the 15th of November following, the basement being finished, was dedicated by the Rev. Dr. Bond. The debt was then four thousand dollars, and it was determined not to finish the audience-room until it could be paid for. In the next year, however, through the urgent efforts of the pastor, Rev. A. H. Mead, the church was completed at a total cost of eleven thousand dollars, and was dedicated by Bishop Janes, November 1, 1855. About eight hundred dollars was raised on the day of the dedication, leaving a debt of five thousand dollars. The debt remained for several years, but in 1866 had been reduced to three thousand dollars, which it was determined to raise at once, and on Sunday, July 15th, in that year, the matter was brought before the congregation, when, to the surprise of all, subscriptions to the entire amount were obtained; but it was afterwards found that a large item of the debt had been overlooked and was unprovided for, while the failure of some to meet their promised payments added still more to the burden, and left the church still quite heavily in debt.

The Rev. A. H. Mead, during whose pastorate the present church edifice was completed, remained in charge one year, and was succeeded by the Rev.





J. W. Kramer, who remained two years; Rev. George H. Neal, two years (Rev. A. E. Ballard, presiding elder). In 1860-61, Rev. B. F. Woolston was pastor (Rev. George Brown, presiding elder). Then came Rev. C. R. Hartranft, two years; Rev. George Hughes, one year (Rev. W. E. Perry, presiding elder). At this time the two-year rule for ministers was changed to three years. Rev. H. Belting was pastor 1865 to 1867 inclusive. Rev. M. Relyea followed, and was pastor in 1868-69, and during his second year a remarkable revival occurred. The services were continued about thirteen weeks, and one hundred and forty-five persons were received on probation. The whole number received by Mr. Relyea in his two years was one hundred and sixty-eight. During this pastorate the present parsonage was erected, and was first occupied by Mr. Relyea. The church at Morganville was also built during his stay. In 1870-71, Rev. A. Matthews was pastor; in 1872-74, Rev. W. S. Zane, with Rev. A. E. Ballard, presiding elder.

In 1872 great improvements were made in the church, at a cost of sixteen hundred dollars, by modernizing the high and massive pulpit, purchasing an organ, painting and frescoing the walls and introducing gas and heaters. In 1875-77, the church was in charge of Rev. W. W. Moffett, pastor (Rev. J. B. Graw, presiding elder), who was succeeded by Rev. G. C. Maddock, 1878-80; Rev. J. G. Crate, 1881; and the Rev. L. O. Manchester, 1882 to the present time.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF MATAWAN was founded in 1850, and through the liberality of Colonel John Travers, who resided at the mouth of Cheesquakes Creek, the present neat and substantial stone edifice was erected. The title was not received by Bishop Scarborough until the spring of 1884. The church was supplied largely by young men from the New York Seminary. Among those who have served here are Revs. Putnam, Kinney, Chetwood and J. D. Moore. Part of the time the rector of St. Mary's, of Keyport, has supplied this pulpit. On the 1st of November, 1884, the Rev. Mr. Norwood assumed charge of St. Mary's, of Keyport, and Trinity Church, of Matawan.

The first newspaper published in this locality

was edited by Philip Freneau, an account of which will be given in the sketch of Mount Pleasant.

No further attempt of the kind was made here until 1844, when Edgar Hoyt established the *Middletown Point Union*, which was continued about two years, after which the press and material were moved to Stamford, Conn. About 1848 George C. Waite started *The Democratic Banner and Monmouth Advertiser*. He sold to George W. Bell and Charles W. Fountain in the spring of 1851. It was a six-column paper, twenty-four by thirty-eight inches. On March 25, 1852, they sold to Henry Morford, who soon after changed the name to *New Jersey Standard*. After remaining about a year he removed to Keyport. *The Atlantic* was started here by — O'Brien in 1853, and continued some time, then moved to Keyport, and ceased to exist. Jacob R. Schenck purchased the press and material and opened an office in Matawan, and in 1857 published the *New Jersey Weekly Times*, and soon after added the name *Keyport Weekly Advertiser*, which was continued until 1862, when it ceased to be published. *The Matawan Journal* was established in July, 1869, the first issue being July 25th. It was originally four columns, and in 1871 was changed to six, and in 1879 to seven columns. At first it was independent in politics, but in 1878 became Democratic. David A. Bell, the founder of the paper, is still editor and proprietor.

THE FARMERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK OF MIDDLETOWN POINT was chartered in 1830, with an authorized capital of fifty thousand dollars. The bank was opened in a building near where Henry S. Little's office now is. De Lafayette Schenck was chosen president and William Little cashier. Mr. Schenck was succeeded, in 1835, by William Little, who was the president until 1843, when he was succeeded by Asbury Fountain, who, in 1876, was succeeded by the present president, William Henry Hendrickson. William Little's successor as cashier was Elihu Baker, who resigned in March, 1854. He was followed, successively, by Archibald Parkhurst, H. W. Johnson and Charles Wardell, the present cashier. About five years after its organization the bank built the banking-house which it now occupies. The capital at present is two hundred thousand dollars.



**HON. WILLIAM H. HENDRICKSON**, farmer and ex-State Senator of Holmdel township, was born June 3, 1813, in Middletown, and is the son of the late William H. and Eleanor (Du Bois) Hendrickson. His paternal ancestors were among the pioneer settlers of Monmouth County, having located here as early as 1698, and he still owns and resides upon the old homestead, which has been in possession of the family since their first settlement in the county.

His education was obtained at the grammar school of Rutgers College, which he left on the death of his father, being then a member of the sophomore class. He has since given his attention largely to agricultural pursuits, and with marked success. As an appreciation of his sterling characteristics, the people of Monmouth County have chosen him at three different times to represent them in the State Senate,—1858–61, for a second term 1872–75, and by re-election for a third term following the second. During his legislative career he was a member of the finance, printing and education committees, and during his first term chairman of the last-named committee. His election in 1872 was without opposition, and his service in the Senate was a credit to himself and an honor to his constituency. The office sought the man, and not the man the office. For several years he was a member of the Board of Freeholders of Monmouth County, president of the Middletown and Keyport Steamboat Company, and is president of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Matawan. He married, February 28, 1839, Elizabeth E. Woodward, of Cream Ridge, Monmouth County, who died December 13, 1865. His second wife is Rebecca C. F. Patterson, whom he married June 24, 1868.

**Trinity Lodge, No. 20, F. and A. M.**—The first Masonic Lodge in this place was warranted by the Grand Lodge as follows: "At the session held on November 10, 1807, a warrant was granted to John Mott, Master; Robert Shannon, S. W.; Jesse Hedges, J. W., for a Lodge at Middletown Point, in the county of Monmouth, by the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 20."

This lodge remained in existence until the Anti-Masonic excitement, when, with many others, it

suspended work. The Grand Secretary, in his report to the Grand Lodge, November 9, 1841, reported of fifty-seven lodges warranted in the State, only eight were in working order; seven had been stricken off, among them Trinity, No. 20; thirty-three had ceased work, but retained their warrants.

Aberdeen Lodge, No. 90, F. and A. M., was formed by six members of Caesarea Lodge, No. 64, of Keyport, who asked a recommendation from that lodge October 9, 1867. A charter was granted and the lodge instituted early in 1868. Meetings were held for a time in Odd-Fellows' Hall, and later in rooms fitted up in a building now occupied by J. G. Conover. The charter was forfeited in 1878, and restored and finally surrendered in 1879, the lodge having at the time twenty-six members. The Past Masters were Judson G. Shackleton, William J. Maggs, Rens. W. Dayton, William A. Fountain and David P. Van Deventer.

Knickerbocker Lodge, No. 52, I. O. of O. F., was chartered February 5, 1847. The charter members were R. R. McChesney, G. D. White, P. F. Ten Eyck, W. W. Hughes and Tunis Hubbard. It was instituted March 30th in that year. It now has a membership of sixty. The present officers are J. G. Conover, N. G.; E. A. Smith, V. G.; William Rogers, Sec.; Richard Bedle, Treas.; Peter Ten Eyck, Per. Sec.

J. W. Shackleton Post, No. 83, G. A. R., was instituted November 1, 1883, with twenty-seven members. Meetings were first held in the Washington Engine-house, and in December of the same year rooms were fitted up in the White building, and are now occupied by the post. George A. Fountain is Commander, and E. S. Griffith, Adjutant. The post now has fifty-eight members.

Washington Fire Company, No. 1, of Matawan, was incorporated March 17, 1870, with David H. Wyckoff, William S. Hornor, William Spader, Charles W. Fountain and Jesse S. Sickles as trustees. The present engine-house was then erected and engine purchased. The present officers are: Foreman, Jesse S. Sickles; Assistant Foreman, William Maggs; Secretary, William Rogers; Treasurer, William A. Fountain. The company has at present thirty-four members.

Matawan Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1, was incorporated in October, 1878. The present building was erected for their use by Judge Wil-







*George F. & Co. Philad.\**

*Wm. H. Hendrickson*



liam Spader. The company numbers thirty-eight members.

In 1815 a tannery was put in operation at Middletown Point by De Lafayette Schenck, a nephew of Ruloff V. Schenck. It was known many years afterwards as the Matawan Tannery, and was sold to George W. Bloodgood in 1864. It is no longer in operation as a tannery.

In 1835 a new grist-mill, situated a mile from Middletown Point, was offered for sale by the owner, Isaac P. Van Doren. It was sold to Cartan & Co., who now own it on the old site.

In 1838, Richard Low made earthenware in the rear of William Little's store. He continued the business till 1850.

In 1852, Josiah Van Schoick and Ezra Dunn built the Matawan Pottery, with two kilns. In 1859, William A. Dunlap became a partner; the firm-name became Dunn, Dunlap & Co.

The J. L. Rue Pottery Company was started in 1860 at South Amboy, by J. L. Rue and others, under the name of J. L. Rue & Co. In 1880 a company was formed by J. L. Rue, J. T. Rue and H. Arrowsmith, as the J. L. Rue Pottery Company. The present grounds were purchased and the company erected two brick two-story buildings, each one hundred by thirty-six feet, a kiln-shed forty-five by seventy feet, and two kilns, each fifteen feet six inches in diameter. H. Arrowsmith retired from the firm in the spring of 1884.

In the spring of 1879, C. S. Bucklin & Co. erected brick buildings, seventy-five by ninety, and thirty by one hundred feet, and commenced the business of canning fruits and vegetables. They now employ about one hundred and twenty-five persons in the fruit season.

In Matawan township, on the road between Keyport and Matawan, are the gas-works that supply both those villages. The Gas Company was organized in 1870. The lot was purchased and the works were commenced in November, 1871. In the following year they were completed, and gas was introduced from them into the two villages.

MOUNT PLEASANT lies south of and immediately adjoining Matawan—being, in fact, nearly a continuation of the last-named village. The name of this place appears in a road record in 1768, and was doubtless in use much earlier. A

year or two later the Presbyterian Church was built there, as mentioned in the account of that church organization in Matawan. An old tombstone standing a few years since, indicated that the burial-place had been used as early as 1740. A school-house at this place was also mentioned in the road record of 1768. One was built on the northeast corner of the church lot long before 1800, and was used till the present house was built. The family of John Burrowes were buried here, and also Dr. Peter Le Conte, of whom nothing is known save the fact that he was buried here and that he died January 29, 1768, in his sixty-sixth year. Dr. Thomas Barber, a surgeon in the Revolutionary army, was also a resident here. His wife, Mary, died March 3, 1788, in her thirty-sixth year. He died several years later and was buried by her side, but no stone marks the place. Members of the Forman family were buried here before 1800. Major Thomas Hunn died September 15, 1797, aged sixty years. The Rev. George S. Woodhull, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, was buried here; he died December 25, 1834, in the sixty-second year of his age and the thirty-seventh of his ministry. Also Mathias Hulsart, who died April 11, 1846, aged eighty-nine years. It is said that he was a soldier in the Revolution.

Mount Pleasant was (and still is, to some extent) noted as the place of residence of Philip Freneau, "the popular poet of the days of the Revolution, who cheered the hearts of the citizens by his ready rhymes in behalf of the good cause and opposition to its foes while patriots were struggling for independence." He was born in Frankfort Street, in New York City, January 2, 1752. The family was of French Huguenot descent. Pierre Frencau, the father of Philip and of Peter Freneau, distinguished in the history of South Carolina, bought an estate of a thousand acres in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant, a family inheritance to which his son removed in 1794, occupied, and where he wrote many of his poems. Both the father and grandfather of Philip Freneau are buried in a vault in Trinity Churchyard, New York, by the side of their family relations.

Of the boyhood of Philip Freneau little is known, but it may be inferred from the position of his family and his subsequent attainments that





he was well instructed at the schools of the city, for in 1767 he was a student at Princeton College, New Jersey, where he graduated with credit, after the usual four years' course, in 1771. He began early the practice of versification; for in his sophomore year, at the age of seventeen, he composed a poem of decided promise, entitled "The Poetical History of the Prophet Jonah," which appears at the head of his first general collection of poems. Other compositions in various metres, on classical and historical themes, preserved in the same volume, were written during his collegiate course.

It was a creditable year for the institution when he graduated, for in his class were James Madison, afterwards President, and other men of note, among whom was Hugh Henry Brackenridge, a graduate with Freneau, afterwards a celebrated judge and author, who, like Freneau, had already developed a taste for poetry, and they united, for their commencement exercise, in the composition of a dialogue: "A Poem on the Rising Glory of America," which they pronounced together, sounding in animated blank verse the achievements of colonization in the past and the visionary grandeur of empire hereafter. This joint poem was published in Philadelphia in 1772. The portion written by Freneau opens the collection of his poems published in 1865 by W. J. Middleton, New York.

The next information of Freneau is gathered from the dates of the poems which he contributed to the journals published by Hugh Gaine and Anderson, in New York, in 1775. They exhibit his interest in the important military affairs of the year in Boston, and are found in the work above named. In a poem of this year, "Mac Sniggen," a satire on some hostile poetaster, he expresses a desire to cross the Atlantic,—

"Long have I sat on this disastrous shore,  
And sighing, sought to gain a passage o'er  
To Europe's towns, where, as our travelers say,  
Poets may flourish, or perhaps they may."

His inclination for foreign travel was gratified in 1776 by a voyage to the West Indies, where he appears to have remained some time in a mercantile capacity, visiting Jamaica and the Danish island of Santa Cruz. Several of his most strik-

ing poems, as the "House of Night" and the "Beauties of Santa Cruz," were written on these visits.

In 1779, Freneau was engaged as a leading contributor to *The United States Magazine; A Repository of History, Politics and Literature*, edited by his college friend and fellow-patriot, Hugh Henry Brackenridge, and published by Francis Bailey, Philadelphia. It was issued monthly from January to December, when its discontinuance was announced "until an established peace and a fixed value of the money shall render it convenient or possible to take it up again."

In the year following the publication of the magazine, Freneau, having embarked as a passenger in a merchant vessel from Philadelphia, on another voyage to the West Indies, was captured by a British cruiser off the Capes of the Delaware and carried with the prize to New York. There he was confined, on his arrival, in the "Scorpion," one of the hulks lying in the harbor used as prison-ships. The cruel treatment which he experienced on board, with the aggravated horrors of foul air and other privations, threw him into a fever, when he was transferred to the hospital-ship "Hunter," which proved simply an exchange of one species of suffering for another more aggravated. How long Freneau was confined in this hideous prison is not known, nor by what influences he gained his discharge. He carried with him, however, on his liberation, a burning memory of the severities and indignities he had endured, which he gave expression to in one of the most characteristic of his poetical productions, "The British Prison-Ship," which was published by Francis Bailey, Philadelphia, 1781. He became a frequent contributor of patriotic odes and occasional poems, celebrating the incidents of the war, to *The Freeman's Journal*, of Philadelphia, and also published in that city a translation of the travels of M. Abbe Robin, the chaplain of Count Rochambeau, giving an account of the progress of the French army from Newport to Yorktown. In 1784 he was at the island of Jamaica, writing a poetical description of Port Royal.

The first collection of his poetical writings which he made, entitled "The Poems of Philip Freneau, written chiefly during the late War,"



was published by Francis Bailey, "at Yorriek's Head, in Market street," Philadelphia, in 1786. It is prefaced by a brief "Advertisement" signed by the publisher, in which he states the pieces now collected had been left in his hands by the author more than a year previously, with permission to publish them whenever he thought proper.

The success of this volume led to the publication, by Mr. Bailey, of another collection of Freneau's writings in 1788. It is entitled "The Miscellaneous Works of Mr. Philip Freneau, containing his Essays and Additional Poems." This volume, as was not uncommon even with works of very limited extent in that early period of the nation, was published by subscription. Among the subscribers were De Witt Clinton, Edward Livingston and other distinguished citizens of New York; Matthew Carey, David Rittenhouse, John Parke, A. M., and others of Philadelphia; thirty copies were taken in Maryland; but the largest number was contributed by South Carolina, that State supplying two hundred and fifty, or more than half the entire list. Captain Freneau was well known and highly appreciated at Charleston, which he frequently visited in the course of his mercantile adventures to the West Indies, and where his younger brother, Peter, who subsequently edited a political journal in that city, and was in intimate correspondence with President Jefferson, was already established as an influential citizen.

After several years spent in voyaging, Freneau was again engaged in active literary employment in 1791, as editor of the *Daily Advertiser*, a journal printed in New York, the superintendence of which he soon exchanged for that of the *National Gazette*, at Philadelphia, the first number of which appeared under his direction in October the same year. He was employed at the same time by Jefferson, the Secretary of State,—the seat of government being then at Philadelphia,—as translating clerk in the State Department, with a salary of two hundred and fifty dollars a year. It was a time of great political excitement, when the newly-framed Constitution, not yet fully established in its working, was exposed to the fierce criticism of its adversaries, while popular opinion was greatly excited by the rising tumult of ideas generated in

the French Revolution. In this strife of parties Freneau was an active partisan of the new French ideas, was a supporter of Genet, the minister who sought to entangle the country in the great European struggle, and, as might be expected, was an unsparing assailant of the policy of Washington, whose character he had heretofore eulogized. Washington was annoyed, and Hamilton attacked Jefferson for his official support of the troublesome editor. Jefferson replied that he had befriended Freneau as a man of genius; but that he had never written for his paper. It is unquestionably true, however, that Freneau's political writings at this time had Jefferson's warmest sympathy.

In 1793 the *Gazette* ceased to exist, and in the fall of that year, or in the following spring, Freneau came to Mount Pleasant, where he took up his residence, and where he soon afterwards issued proposals for the publication of "a Monmouth Newspaper." One, at least, of those "proposals" is still in existence. It is printed in small pica type on a sheet of common paper, eight by thirteen inches in size, and dated "Mount Pleasant, July 4, 1794." It opens with a statement that—

"A number of the inhabitants of Freehold, Middletown and the neighboring townships in the county of Monmouth having intimated their opinion that a weekly newspaper, printed in said county, might find a considerable circulation and favorable reception from the public, the subscriber has been induced to draw up and publish the following proposals, in order to determine whether a number of names will offer sufficient, by the commencement of the publication, to defray the expenses incident to the same." The paper was to be called "*The Monmouth Gazette and East Jersey Intelligencer*," to be published every Tuesday morning, at the rate of \$1.50 per annum, one-half in advance and the remainder at the end of the year. After-payments at the end of every six months, "in cash or country produce." The publication was to be commenced as soon as five hundred subscribers were obtained, and the papers were to be forwarded in packages, "by a stated Post-Rider, to Middletown Point, Holmes' Mill, Middletown, Shrewsbury, Colt's Neck, Monmouth Court-House, Walton's Mills, Englishtown and Major Conover's Mills." The paper was to contain "the freshest foreign and domestic intelligence, with the proceedings of Congress during the session, a summary of the proceedings of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, and the laws enacted from time to time by the Federal Government." The first number was to be issued on the first Tuesday in October next following





Nothing is found to show that the *Monmouth Gazette* was ever published as proposed, but in the following spring Freneau commenced the publication of the first newspaper ever issued in Monmouth County, viz: *The New Jersey Chronicle*, published at Mount Pleasant, near Middletown Point. The first number was issued May 2, 1795, and continued weekly for a year, when it suspended for lack of support. "This *Chronicle* was quite a curious affair. It was printed by the author, Philip Freneau himself, who had mustered a medley of types for the purpose. The first number was of the humble dimensions of eight small quarto pages of seven inches by eight. This spirited little paper was soon enlarged, but, typographically, at least, it always appeared of a somewhat sickly constitution."

In the same year, from his press at Mount Pleasant, he issued a volume entitled "Poems written between the years 1768 and 1794, by Philip Freneau, of New Jersey." There are other editions of his poems, but this one is so rare that it is highly prized by antiquarians. In a catalogue of a London bookseller it was advertised for sale; price, £3 10s. The last copy heard of for sale in this country was one in a Washington antiquarian book-store, for which the dealer asked some forty odd dollars, and finally got down to thirty-five dollars for a small octavo volume of four hundred and fifty-six pages.

In 1797 Freneau edited and aided in printing and publishing, in New York, a miscellaneous periodical entitled *The Time-Piece and Literary Companion*. It was printed in quarto form and appeared three times a week. In 1799 he published in Philadelphia a thin octavo volume of "Letters on Various Subjects, etc.," under the *nom de plume* of "Robert Slender, A.M." For some years after this there is found no particular account of his occupation, but it appears that he still resided in New Jersey, penning occasional verses on topics suggested by the day. In 1809 he published the fourth collection of his writings, entitled "Poems published during the American Revolution."

In the poem which Freneau wrote during his visit to the West Indies, and entitled "Beauties of Santa Cruz" (before mentioned), he records his detestation of negro slavery, and the same is found,

pictured still more vividly, in his poem addressed "To Sir Toby, a sugar-planter in the interior parts of Jamaica."

In another poem "On Emigration to America, and Peopling the Western Country," published in his volume of 1795, Freneau comes nearer home, in the declaration of his opinions on this subject, when he writes,—

"O come the time and haste the day  
When man shall man no longer crush,  
When reason shall enforce her sway,  
Nor these fair regions raise our blush,  
Where still the African complains,  
And mourns his yet unbroken chains."

In after-life, when the poet himself, under the mild system of Northern servitude, became the owner of slaves in New Jersey, he uniformly treated them with kindness, manumitted them in advance of the Emancipation Act in the State, and supported on the farm those of them who were not able to take care of themselves. One of these was an ancient "mammy," who lived some years after the death of her former master, and who was ever ready with the boast that she had once opened the door for General Washington, who had spoken a kind word or two to her on that occasion, though there is little probability that there was any truth in the tale, as there is nothing to show that Washington was ever any nearer to Mount Pleasant than the Monmouth battle-field.

Philip Freneau lived to commemorate the incidents of the second war with Great Britain, in 1812. He wrote various poems celebrating the naval actions of Hull, Porter, Maedonough and others: His traditionary hatred of England survives in these and other compositions which he published in New York, in 1815, in two small volumes, entitled "A Collection of Poems on American Affairs and a variety of other subjects, &c." A distinguished writer says, in reviewing this volume: "He depicts land battles and naval fights with much animation and gay coloring; and being himself an old son of Neptune, he is never at a loss for appropriate circumstance and expressive diction when the scene lies at sea." After witnessing and chronicling in his verse the conflicts of two wars, Freneau had yet many years of life before him. They were mostly passed in retirement at Mount Pleasant, and later



at his residence, near Freehold. He occasionally visited New York, keeping up acquaintance with the leaders of the Democratic party. His appearance and conversation at this time has been graphically described by the late Dr. John W. Francis, in whom the genius and history of Freneau excited the warmest interest, and which was published in the "Cyclopedia of American Literature."

"I had, (says Dr. Francis), when very young, read the poetry of Freneau, and as we instinctively become attached to the writers who first captivate our imaginations, it was with much zest that I formed a personal acquaintance with the Revolutionary bard. He was at that time about seventy-six years old, when he first introduced himself to me in my library. I gave him an earnest welcome. He was somewhat below the ordinary height; in person thin, yet muscular; with a firm step, though a little inclined to stoop; his countenance wore traces of care, yet lightened with intelligence as he spoke; he was mild in enunciation, neither rapid nor slow, but clear, distinct and emphatic. His forehead was rather beyond the medium elevation; his eyes a dark gray, occupying a socket deeper than common; his hair must have once been beautiful; it was now thinned and of an iron gray. He was free of all ambitious displays; his habitual expression was pensive. His dress might have passed for that of a farmer. New York, the city of his birth, was his most interesting theme; his collegiate career with Madison, next. His story of many of his occasional poems was quite romantic. As he had at command types and a printing-press, when an incident of moment in the Revolution occurred, he would retire for composition, or find shelter under the shade of some tree, indite his lyrics, repair to the press, set up his types and issue his productions. There was no difficulty in versification with him. I told him what I had heard Jeffrey, the Scotch reviewer, say of his writings, that the time would arrive when his poetry, like that of Hudibras, would command a commentator like Grey. It is remarkable how tenaciously Freneau preserved the acquisitions of his early classical studies, notwithstanding he had for many years, in the after-portion of his life, been occupied in pursuits so entirely alien to books. There is no portrait of the patriot Freneau; he always firmly declined the painter's art and would brook no 'counterfeit presentment.'"

The aversion of Freneau to sitting for his portrait, noticed by Dr. Francis, was one of his peculiarities, for which it is not easy to suggest a sufficient explanation. But whatever the motive, he resolutely declined to have his portrait painted. He was once waited upon by the artist Rembrandt Peale, with a request for this purpose, by a body of gentlemen in Philadelphia; but he was inexor-

able on the subject. On another occasion, the elder Jarvis, with a view of securing his likeness, was smuggled into a corner of the room at a dinner-party at Dr. Hosack's, to which the poet had been invited; but the latter detected the design and arrested its accomplishment. In later years however, after the poet's death, a portrait of him was painted from recollection, which was pronounced satisfactory by several surviving members of his family, who remembered his personal appearance.

In the collection of Freneau's poems published in 1809 is found the list of subscribers which he procured for it, headed by the names of James Madison, then President, and Thomas Jefferson; and in Monmouth County there were the following subscribers, viz.: Middletown: Jehu Patterson, Esq., Captain Hendrick Hendrickson, James Mott, Esq., Colonel Jarrett Stillwell, Captain Isaac Van Dorn, Captain Denise Hendrickson, Brigadier-General Richard Poole. Middletown Point: Cornelius P. Vanderhoof, Esq., Dr. William Reynolds, Captain John Hall. Near Middletown Point: John Van Pelt, merchant, Peter Johnson, William Walton. Allentown: Richard Stout, merchant. Freehold: John Quay, Esq., Mr. David Cook. Monmouth: Hon. James Cox. The most recent volume of his poems was published in 1865 by W. J. Middleton, New York, with an introductory memoir by Evert A. Duyckinck, from which are taken many of the facts in the foregoing outline of his life.

In the last years of his life Mr. Freneau was not a resident of Mount Pleasant, but lived about two miles below the village of Freehold, where he owned and occupied a house now the property of A. J. Buck. There he lived until he had nearly completed his eightieth year. He lost his life, December 18, 1833, "by exposure and cold while going on foot, in the night during a snow-storm, to his residence, near Freehold." The circumstances of his death were related in the *Monmouth Inquirer* of December 15th, as follows:

"Mr. Freneau was in the village; and started, toward evening, to go home, about two miles. In attempting to go across, he appears to have got lost and mired in a bog meadow, where his corpse was discovered yesterday morning. Captain Freneau was a staunch Whig in the time of the Revolution, a good soldier and a warm patriot. The productions of his pen animated his countrymen in the darkest days of '76, and the





effusions of his muse cheered the desponding soldier as he fought the battles of freedom."

Philip Freneau left a family of four daughters, all of whom were living in 1865. The mother of Horatio Seymour, of New York, (Mary, daughter of General Jonathan Forman), was a niece of Mrs. Philip Freneau, the wife of the poet. The Freneaus, through the second marriage of the poet's mother, were connected with the Kearney family of New Jersey. Philip Freneau married, at about the age of thirty, Miss Eleanor Forman, daughter of Samuel Forman. General Jonathan Forman and Denise Forman, who were much engaged in military affairs in the State during the Revolution, were her brothers. David Forman was her cousin. This lady, who shared her husband's talent for poetry, corresponding with him for several years before their marriage in verse, was of marked character and intelligence. She was devotedly attached to the Episcopal Church, which the family attended, having left the French Church in the lifetime of the poet's father. Mrs. Freneau survived her husband seventeen years, retaining in her latter days many of the most interesting memories of the Revolution. She died September 1, 1850, and her remains lie with those of her husband, in the family burial-ground at Mount Pleasant. A monument to the poet's memory has since been erected on the spot.

The house in which Philip Freneau lived at Mount Pleasant is still standing (having been remodeled in later years), and is now owned by the estate of Thomas Ryer. The poet's grave is about fifty yards in the rear of the house.

Thomas I. Bedle, who came to Mount Pleasant in 1827, says there were at that time about thirty houses, including Mount Pleasant and Middletown Point. Peter Johnson had kept the tavern many years, and was succeeded by his son William, who was the landlord at that time. It is not kept as a tavern at present. The old sign-board bears the name of William H. Conover, who was the last landlord.

CLIFFWOOD is situated in the northern part of Matawan township, at Matavan Point, where, about twenty-five years ago, Henry L. Clark purchased a tract of high land on which he laid out a

village plat, erected a large hotel, built a dock and chartered a steamboat to make trips to and from the place; but all efforts failed to create a village or establish trade at that point, as was expected.

THE CLIFFWOOD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH building was erected in 1854. The services held in it have from the first been under charge of the Methodist Church at Matawan.

SCHOOLS.—The first mention or knowledge of a school-house within the limits of this township is found in a record of a road dated March 24, 1761. The road passed "through Mount Pleasant to Middletown Point Landing, near the school-house on said Point." Exactly where this school-house stood it is impossible to determine. Before this time a Presbyterian Church organization was formed, a house erected and a burial-ground laid out on the site of what is yet known as the old cemetery. Asbury Fountain attended school in an old house that stood, in 1815, on the northeast corner of the burial-lot. This site may have been the location of the old house of 1761. The school-house Mr. Fountain attended was in use (with repairs) until about 1850, when it was rebuilt and used until the present school-house was erected, a short distance away, on the side of the old burying-ground. This district is No. 46, and is known as Mount Pleasant District. It now contains one hundred and sixty-six children of school age. Joseph W. Dunlap was a teacher in the old house about 1840, and was followed by Van Brackle.

About 1833 an effort was made to establish a school near the centre of the village of Matawan. It was in operation in the spring of 1834, and called Middletown Point Academy. The success of this little school caused greater interest to be taken, and on the 16th of August, 1834, a meeting was held in the bank-office and a subscription was started to erect a suitable building. It was resolved that the property of the academy be divided into twenty-two shares, at fifty dollars each, which were taken by eleven persons, viz.:—William Little, Francis P. Simpson, George S. Woodhull, Holmes Van Mater, D. L. F. Schenck, John C. Whitlock, Joseph P. Conover, William Cooley, Asbury Fountain, Joseph Ellis and Elihu Baker.

On the 6th of September, 1834, it was decided to build a school-house 44 x 26 feet, two stories in

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters. The text outlines various methods for organizing and storing data, suggesting that digital tools can be highly effective for this purpose.

2. The second section focuses on the role of communication in project management. It argues that clear and consistent communication is the key to ensuring that all team members are aligned with the project's goals and objectives. The author provides several practical tips for improving communication, such as holding regular meetings and using collaborative platforms.

3. The third part of the document addresses the challenges of time management. It acknowledges that time is a limited resource and that effective time management is crucial for meeting deadlines and achieving success. The text offers strategies for prioritizing tasks and avoiding procrastination, highlighting the importance of creating a realistic schedule.

4. The fourth section explores the concept of risk management. It explains that identifying and mitigating potential risks is a critical component of any project or business plan. The author discusses various risk assessment techniques and provides examples of how to develop contingency plans to address unforeseen circumstances.

5. The final part of the document discusses the importance of continuous learning and improvement. It encourages readers to stay up-to-date with the latest trends and technologies in their field and to seek out opportunities for professional development. The text concludes by emphasizing that a commitment to growth and innovation is essential for long-term success.

height. The present district school-house, No. 47, stands on the lot then purchased, and it is the building then erected. Contract was made, October 11th, in that year, with T. D. Simpson to complete the building for one thousand and twenty dollars. A meeting of the stockholders was held February 5, 1835, to organize and elect trustees. William S. Cooley was selected as principal, and the first term began April 27, 1835. He taught until July 21, 1836, when he was dismissed, and August 1st following, Philetus Phillips was engaged to take charge of the academy, a position he held until January 1, 1844. He had as assistants Mrs. Phillips, Miss Louisa Cox, teacher of French and Miss Hannah J. Cox, as teacher of music. He was succeeded by William Parker. From the first the principals paid to the stockholders one dollar per pupil as rent for the building. The furniture of the school-room was the property of the principal. About 1845 the school began to receive public money. It was, however, continued under the care of the stockholders until 1851, when it was leased to the district, then under the care of George W. Bell.

Up to this time the scholars of the village who were not attending the Academy were attending the school at the old graveyard. The Academy was still continued under J. W. Schermerhorn as principal. In 1857 the stockholders purchased a lot on the opposite side of the street, subscribed two thousand dollars and erected a part of the present Institute building, and the Academy was opened with much better facilities and advantages. In 1859, Henry Sabin became principal. During his stay a paper called the *Monthly Offering* was published each month by the pupils. It was then called the Collegiate Institute of Middletown Point. Mr. Sabin remained principal until after 1862, when — Howard became his successor, and in 1872, J. H. Hamilton became principal and remained two years. On September 10, 1874, Charles Jacobus, the present principal, took charge of the Glenwood Institute (a name given by Professor Howard). Under Mr. Jacobus the building has been enlarged to its present dimensions and capacity. The names of the faculty and board of trustees are here given, viz.:

Faculty for 1884-85: Charles Jacobus, A.M., (principal), Latin, Greek, physics; Carrie A. Bee-

gle, music, French; Albert H. Wilson, English, mathematics and book-keeping; Julia A. Kuech, history, German; Helen V. Nathans, primary department. Board of Trustees: Daniel B. Strong, William L. Terhune, Henry W. Johnson, Edward Black, William Spader, Rens. W. Dayton. Officers: Daniel B. Strong, president; Henry W. Johnson, secretary and treasurer.

The district used the old Academy building under the lease until 1873. On July 2d in that year the district was authorized to raise two thousand dollars to purchase the lot and building, which was done; since which time school has been taught there. The district now contains one hundred and eighty-three children of school age.

In March, 1839, a boarding-school was opened at Middletown Point by the Misses Walton, which was continued a few years.

On the 7th of August, 1850, a lot was purchased in the lower part of the town, on which was erected the Lower Point School-house, now known as District No. 48. This district contains two hundred and twenty-nine pupils.

The Cliffwood School District, No. 45, situated in the north part of the township, contains one hundred and eighteen children of school age. The school-house was erected before 1825, and stood on the opposite side of the brook from the present Cliffwood station. In 1854 it was moved to its present location, and about 1874 an upper story was added.

That portion of the township lying next to Holmdel is a part of Oak Grove District, No. 58. The school-house is in Holmdel. The district contains seventy-six pupils.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

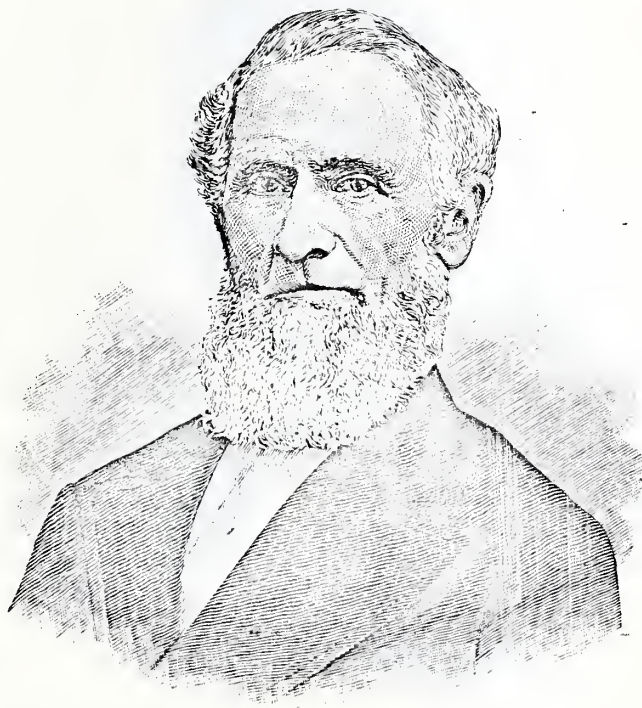
THOMAS W. THORNE is the son of John Thorne, born April 10, 1790, who resided on the Thorne homestead, below Keyport. He married Elizabeth Walling, whose birth occurred September 11, 1790. Their children were William Henry, born in 1813; Thomas W., November 1, 1814; John L., in 1816; Ann, in 1818; Elijah, in 1821; Mary, in 1823; Joseph W., in 1825; Garret, in 1827; Elizabeth, in 1830; Ann and Elijah, who died in youth.





Thomas W., the second son in order of birth, spent his childhood upon the homestead farm, near Keyport, receiving only such education as was obtainable in the neighborhood, and when a youth, entered the store of Mr. Leonard Walling as clerk. He subsequently transferred his services to Keyport, and from thence to Holmdel, where he was for many years engaged in the mercantile business. He had various partners, one of whom was his brother Joseph, though much of the time he conducted the business alone. Mr. Thorne

was elected without solicitation to various offices of trust, and filled them with fidelity and acceptance. For many years he was superintendent of the Keyport and Matawan Gas-Light Company, having removed to the latter place in April, 1872, and secretary of the Holmdel Cemetery Company from its first inception. He was also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. He was often solicited to fill such offices of trust as executor, administrator and trustee, and his opinion was received with respect in questions requir-



*Thos. W. Thorne*

married, on the 1st of October, 1844, Miss Margaret S., daughter of Jonathan I. Holmes, of Holmdel. Their children were two sons—Jonathan H. and John Edgar, deceased—and two daughters, Eleanor S. and Ann Eliza. The death of Mrs. Thorne occurred December 20, 1855. Mr. Thorne was a man of modest demeanor, but universally esteemed as an honored and upright citizen. He was a strong Democrat in his political sympathies, and greatly interested in the success of the principles which his party maintained. He

ing arbitration. In his religious convictions Mr. Thorne was a Baptist, and a member and trustee of the Baptist Church at Matawan, whose interests he was foremost in promoting. His death occurred June 7, 1882, in his sixty-eighth year.

**AARON LONGSTREET.**—The genealogy of the Longstreet family is given in the biographical sketch of Jonathan Longstreet, Esq., who resides upon the homestead. Aaron Longstreet was born on the 17th of August, 1805, at the family home



in Holmdel, where he remained until his nineteenth year, meanwhile combining study at school in the latter village with the varied duties of a farmer's son. He then removed to Middletown Point (now Matawan), and engaged for two years as clerk, subsequently returning again to the homestead. In connection with Daniel Holmes, he embarked in store-keeping at Holmdel, and continued this business connection for eight years. He was, on the 29th of January, 1839,

in his native township. In 1842 Matawan became his residence, where he became interested in the lumber business in connection with Sidney Bray, and was also for some time engaged in mercantile pursuits. He continued this active life until 1880, the date of his practical retirement from business ventures. Mr. Longstreet has, since his removal to Matawan, been identified with its leading public enterprises. He is a director of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Matawan. In



*Aaron Longstreet*

married to Catharine V. M., daughter of William L. Lloyd, of Holmdel, and Mary Van Mater, his wife. Their children are Mary H. (wife of John H. Ellis), Charles Lloyd (deceased), Huldah H. (deceased, wife of Dr. James S. Conover) and Henry H. (a merchant who studied law with Rensselaer Dayton, Esq., of Matawan, and was admitted to the bar). Mr. Longstreet, in 1839, removed to and remained two years at Tinton Falls, Monmouth County, after which, in 1841, he resumed farming for a brief period

politics he adheres to the principles of the Democracy, though never an aspirant for office nor an active partisan. His religious belief is in sympathy with the creed of the Presbyterian Church, of which both he and his wife are members.

**SIDNEY BRAY.**—The great-great-grandfather of Mr. Bray was a Baptist clergyman from England, who, in 1688, organized the Baptist Church at Holmdel, and erected the meeting-house at his own expense, besides donating the land on which now





stands the church and parsonage, together with the burial-grounds, containing four and one-third acres. For many years the church was known as the "Old Bray Meeting-House," and Mr. Bray himself was conceded to be a "man of gifts." Sidney Bray was the grandson of Samuel and Mary Bray, and the son of Samuel and Hope Bray. He was born at Holmdel on the 25th of May, 1822, and, making Matawan his residence, in the spring of 1843, when

W. Mr. Bray was in politics an unswerving and pure-minded Democrat, though not especially active in the political field. In social life he was genial and full of pleasant humor. In business he was prompt, careful, reliable and thoroughly informed as to the financial status of those in the community, which enabled his firm, in all their extensive business connections, to conduct their affairs with comparatively little loss. In 1859, Mr. Bray united with



*Sidney Bray*

twenty-one years of age, entered into partnership with Aaron Longstreet, in the lumber, mercantile and freighting trade. He continued active business relations until failing health compelled him to relinquish his employments, and Messrs. Walker & Conover became their successors. Mr. Bray was, in March, 1851, married to Margaret V., daughter of the late Captain Haddock Whitlock, whose children are two daughters,—Gertrude S. wife of John J. Beers, Esq., of Holmdel, and Harriet

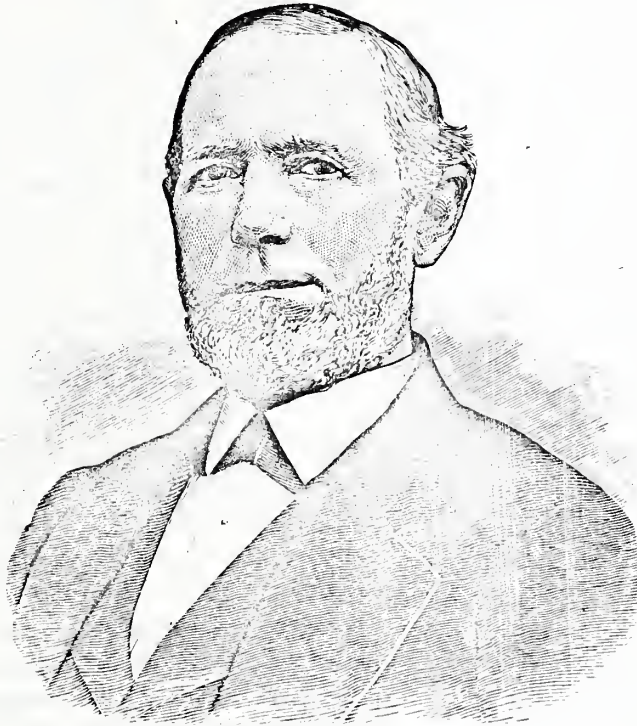
the Presbyterian Church at Matawan, and for twenty years was its treasurer and a member of its board of trustees. His death occurred on the 16th of August, 1881, in his sixtieth year.

WILLIAM SPADER.—Peter Spader was born in Somerset County, N. J., about half a mile from Middlebush Church, on Thursday, the 29th of September, 1785, the only son and child of John Spader and his second wife, Jane Vanderbilt.



His ancestors came from Holland. The first records we find of them are deeds and leases (now in possession of Peter Vanderbilt Spader) in the purchase by Johanues Spader of one hundred and ninety-six acres of land on the Millstone River of Samuel Royse, on September 20, 1718, and two leases, one of two hundred and ten acres in 1722, and the other of nine hundred and eighty acres in 1730, from Clem. Plumstead, the heir of one of the

with credit during the seven years of the War of the Revolution. He married Annie, daughter of Jeremiah Vanderbilt, whose children were two sons—John and Jeremiah—and two daughters,—Jane and Annie. The birth of John, the eldest of these sons, occurred on the 21st of December, 1790, on Long Island, where he engaged in the employment of a farmer. He married Phebe Lott, of Queens County, L. I., whose children



*Ym Spader*

original East Jersey proprietors. This Johannes Spader was the great-grandfather of Peter Spader.

The next record we have is when Lord Howe's army was retreating from Millstone to New Brunswick, in 1777, the barn and out-buildings and part of the house of John Spader, father of Peter Spader, were destroyed by fire by the British army.

William Spader, half brother of Peter Spader, above mentioned, and grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, served

were John, William, Annie (Mrs. John L. Denton), Jeremiah V. and Stephen L., of whom William and Annie survive. The former, was born March 2, 1817, in Brooklyn, where he received a fair English education and gave his attention to the demands of the farm until his twenty-second year. Monmouth County, in 1839, became his home, the farm he purchased and cultivated having been located in Marlboro' township. Desiring some variation from the routine of the farmer, he,





in 1861, removed to Matawan, in the same county, and embarked in the lumber business. Continuing thus employed for some years, in 1879 he relinquished active mercantile life, and finding a sufficient demand upon his time in the attention given to his private interests, also, as a diversion, cultivated a small tract of land adjacent to his residence. Judge Spader, either as a Whig of the old school or a Republican, has been active in public matters and in the administration of affairs connected with the township. He was appointed associate judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Monmouth County, and served for five years upon the bench. He has since his removal to Matawan been more especially identified with its business interests. He is a director of the Monmouth County Fire Insurance Company, of Freehold, and has been officially connected with other corporations. He is especially earnest in his efforts for the advancement of the agricultural interests of the county, and fills the office of president of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. He is also director of the Keyport and Matawan Gas Company. He still, though not a resident, maintains his connection with the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Marlboro', of which he has been since 1845 a member, and for twenty-five years its treasurer and one of its elders. Judge Spader was, in 1838, married to Eliza, daughter of Jeremiah Vanderbilt, of Flatbush, L. I. Their children are Jeremiah V., John, Phebe (Mrs. Dr. J. P. Geran, of Brooklyn), Eliza V. (Mrs. Jacob Prince, of Flatbush, deceased). Mrs. Spader's death occurred in 1845, and he was again married, in 1855, to Mary L., daughter of William H. Whitlock, of Brooklyn. Their children are Anna D. (wife of John R. Dubois, of Holmdel, N. J.) and Mary V. (wife of William V. Clark, of Matawan, N. J.).

## CHAPTER XXX.

### NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP.

NEPTUNE is a sea-coast township, bounded east by the Atlantic Ocean, south by Shark River, which divides it from Wall township,

west by Shrewsbury, and north by the township of Ocean. Its only stream of any importance is Shark River. The sea-shore line of railway extends along the entire ocean-front of the township. The population of Neptune, by the United States census of 1880, was four thousand one hundred and eighty-seven.

This township was erected by an act of the Legislature, approved February 26, 1879, which provides and declares,—

"That all that part of the township of Ocean contained within the following bounds, that is to say: Beginning at the Atlantic Ocean, where Great Pond empties into the same, and running thence westerly up the middle of said Great Pond and the south branch thereof until it intersects a continuation of the centre line of Asbury Avenue, in the borough of Asbury Park, in said County; thence continuing the course of said centre line (as the magnetic needle now points), north sixty-seven degrees and fifty minutes west, until it intersects the division line between the township of Ocean and the township of Shrewsbury, in said county, in the middle of the public road leading from Eatontown to Squan, near Benjamin King's storehouse; thence in a southerly direction along said line to Shark River brook; thence in an easterly direction along the centre of Shark River to the Atlantic Ocean; thence northerly along the same to the place of beginning, shall be, and hereby is set off from the said township of Ocean, and made a separate township, to be called and known as the township of Neptune."

The following is a list of the chosen freeholders of Neptune township from its organization to the present time, viz.: 1879, George C. Ormerod; 1880-83, John C. Hathaway; 1884, Cook Howland.

Along the sea-shore of Neptune township, northward from the southern limit at Shark River to the northern boundary at Great Pond, or "Deal Lake," are located the following-named places and villages: Key East, Bradley Beach, Ocean Grove and Asbury Park, the last named being at the northeast corner of the township, on Deal Lake.

KEY EAST is situated in the southeast corner of the township, on Shark River. Its site was comprehended in a tract of two hundred and sixty-five acres of land patented to Gavin Drummond, November 12, 1701. The tract was bounded on the east by the sea, south by Shark River, north by Duck Creek, and west



by William West's land. This tract passed through several ownerships, but remained intact until 1851, when John Fields (then the owner) died, and commissioners sold the property in parcels to fifteen or twenty different parties. These passed through many changes, and between September 14, 1878, and March 17, 1880, Edward Batchelor, of Philadelphia, came into possession of the entire original tract by purchases made at different times in that period.

The place is a bluff at the mouth of Shark River, opposite Ocean Beach, in Wall township, and one mile from the southern limits of Ocean Grove. In January, 1883, improvements were commenced here by the laying out of lots and the grading of streets and avenues. The avenues are eighty feet in width; the lots are fifty by one hundred and fifty feet. Berwick Lodge was built and opened for the season of 1883. Avon Inn was built in 1883-84 and opened for the season of 1884 and is intended to keep open for the winter. A life-saving station is near the bathing-place.

The Summer School of the American Institute of Christian Philosophy held a meeting at this place in June, 1884, and decided to establish here permanently.

NEPTUNE village lies west of and adjoining Key East, being separated from the latter place only by the Manasquan and Long Branch road, where the bridge crosses the river. The bridge was built in 1858, and in that year a hotel was opened at this place by Allen R. Cook. He was succeeded by Lewis C. Green and Theodore Fields. About 1867, William Laird opened a store at the place, now kept by Mrs. Casnir. In 1875, William Devereaux opened a store and was appointed postmaster of the office then established. He still holds the position.

On the north bank of Musquash Cove, David Slocum built a hotel in 1862 and kept it for two or three years, and in 1864 traded property with Jacob Bennett. It was at this hotel, a year or two later, that Hartshorne Fleming was shot by a man who, after committing the homicide, immediately went out into the woods and killed himself.

OCEAN GROVE is located on the sea-shore north of Key East and Bradley Beach, on Long Pond (now called Wesley Lake), which forms its northern boundary and divides it from Asbury Park. The place was laid out and brought to its present stage of improvement by the Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was organized on the 22d of December, 1869. The history of Ocean Grove was given in a historical address delivered by the Rev. E. H. Stokes, the president of the association, July 31, 1875, and is here reproduced as delivered, with only the exception of the omission of a few passages not pertinent to the history of the place.

Ocean Grove is not an accident. Far back in the history of the past—indeed, from the beginning—rest from the wear and tear of human life has been a necessity. Human nature, in its mental and physical conditions, cannot endure uninterrupted toil. In the earlier ages life was simpler, and the habits of men such as to afford somewhat of the needed rest in the rural pursuits furnished from day to day. But as time rolled on, and a higher type of civilization prevailed, brain and nerve were taxed to the last extreme by these refinements, until the physical was often prostrated, and the mind imperiled. . . . Then summer resorts sprung up to meet a felt want. The mountains, sea-shore, valleys, glens, cataracts, sulphur springs and river-sides were sought out, and soon became centres of attraction. Cape May and the Catskills are among our first remembrances. These all had their adherents, and served their purpose, and do so still. But there was another element of society increasing, and becoming more and more powerful every day, yet unprovided for. It was the religious element. There was a class of religious men, too, worn down with the toils of professional and business life, whose nerves and brain needed rest like other men, and they said, one to another, "We want to enjoy the sea, and the air, and the bathing and the fishing,—the sea and the air are God's works, and for us—and we need them. Can we not have them, free from the dissipations and follies of fashionable watering-places, and at a cost within our





means?" These were important questions, and were asked by thousands. To these men the fashionable watering-places had no attractions,—neither the society nor employments were congenial. The cost, too, was more than their income would allow. We wanted to rest, and to recreate,—to fish, to sail, to bathe, to walk along the surf, to admire the sublime and beautiful on the calm or stormy sea, to inhale the ocean air. The first crude thought was to find somewhere along the coast a little plat of ground where a few of us might get the privilege of pitching our tents for a while in summer, where we could enjoy ourselves, having such religious services intermingled as convenience or inclination might suggest. But it was a long while before the crude thought gathered sufficient strength to assume a definite shape. Meanwhile the Vineland Camp-Meeting for the promotion of holiness was held. It was a success; but the shade was not good, and Rev. J. R. Andrews, then pastor of the Vineland Church, and Rev. W. B. Osborn, selected and determined on the purchase of a better grove in the immediate vicinity, for the establishment of a permanent camp-meeting ground. But, through some misapprehension, the purchase was defeated. The brethren above referred to then said, "Let us select a camp-ground by the sea-side, and then the desired rest and the great salvation needed can be secured at the same time." They agreed; the coast was explored, and the Seven-Mile Beach, Cape May County, N. J., was fixed upon as the spot, and was to be purchased by Andrews and Osborn for fifty thousand dollars, a pretty round sum for two poor Methodist preachers,—but they had faith and zeal, though little money. They went to Philadelphia to complete the purchase, when Andrews said to Osborn, "There is one thing we have forgotten." "What is that?" said Osborn. "*The mosquitoes,*" replied Andrews. "We don't want to buy the mosquitoes." "That's so," said Osborn, and the purchase was abandoned. That was well, too, for Seven-Mile Beach was not the place. Osborn was appointed agent for the Vineland Seminary. In that capacity he traveled largely through the State, and talked up the matter of a sea-side

summer resort for ministers, and the long-cherished idea of a camp-meeting by the sea. In the selection of a suitable place, the whole New Jersey coast, from Cape May to Sandy Hook, was carefully explored.

The grounds now occupied were first visited by Rev. W. B. Osborn and Rev. George Neal, then pastor of First Church, Long Branch, in February, 1868, a deep snow being on the ground. They first inclined to a point of land on what is now the Asbury Park side, nearest the lake and the sea. The second visit was a few weeks later; Osborn, Neal and Rev. R. M. Stratton, then pastor of the Centenary Church, Long Branch, being the company. They explored the grounds pretty thoroughly, but reached no definite conclusion. After that, Osborn brought Dr. George F. Brown and Rev. W. E. Perry, P. E., to view the locality, but no advance was made, and the matter was allowed to rest until the coming summer. Osborn then came alone, and examined all the grounds in the neighborhood. The time was more propitious to select a camp-ground than in bleak winter. All things considered, our present locality, being high and dry, with lakes on either side, a pleasant and shady grove, with splendid ocean-front for bathing, was finally fixed upon as best adapted to our wants, and "Ocean Grove" at once adopted as a name.

At the time of the selection of this land as a place of operation scarcely anything could have been rougher. It was wilderness, desert, desolation. Silence reigned. After passing Great Pond, the northern boundary of Asbury Park, all was an unbroken solitude. A serpentine and heavy sand road, wide enough for only a single wagon-track, was all that penetrated the forest. Crossing what was then Long Pond (now Wesley Lake, and turning into the thicket just where our gates are, at the head of Main Avenue, our driver (the first time we entered the grounds, May, 1869) stood in front of his carriage and lifted the limbs so as to crowd our conveyance through the brush and drooping boughs of the trees. We came down by a blind road, the brush tearing and scratching our curtains at every step, and stopped just in the rear of this stand, by the cedar-tree which yet re-

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mains as a memorial of the fact. It was a dark, dreary, drizzly day. The sands hedged us in like petrified billows of the sea, while outside of these banks were knolls and depressions, covered with long beach grass, the picture of desolation; while the sea moaned in the distance as if in unutterable sorrow that it had been doomed for long ages to wash the shore of a land so utterly destitute of every attraction. The grove was a tangled wild-wood, where briars scratched and bushes tore. The heavens were black, the grass wet, and the sands half-knee deep. We alighted from our carriage, and went forth to explore, Osborn leading, and dilating, with all the energy of which he is capable, upon the wonderful beauties of the place. And, strange to say, black as were the heavens, wet as was the grass, deep as was the sand, moaning as did the sea, we had not traveled far before the conviction seized every mind that, dismal and destitute as it was, it possessed capabilities of being made to bloom and blossom as the rose—and while we stood on the sand-drifts south of what is now Main Avenue, and looked out over the great wide sea, it seemed to us that a more magnificent site for cottages could hardly be found.

At that time, between Great Pond and Shark River, east of the main road, a distance of nearly four miles, there were thirty-four inhabitants. On the grounds now owned by the Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association (about three hundred acres) there were but four persons, namely,—Charles Rogers, wife and two children. On the grounds now known as Asbury Park there was not a single inhabitant. And yet, dark and dismal as was that day, destitute as was the earth of cultivation, and wild as was the scene on every hand, it did not seem lonely then, and never has.

This was the condition of things when a few families, about twenty persons in all, met on these grounds on the last week of July, 1869. Our tents, poor, dingy and old (ten in number), were located about as follows: Rev. W. B. Osborn was near the northeast edge of what is now Thompson Park, under quite a large hickory-tree, which, unfortunately and greatly to our regret, is now nearly or quite dead. Near him was the tent of Rev. J. H. Stockton and

Rev. G. Hughes. A little south of these was Orville Howard, of Troy, brother of Charles E. Howard, of the Pitman House; then, a few yards north, on the immediate lake-front, on the rise of ground in Thompson Park, just where Pilgrim Pathway curves into Lake Avenue, was the tent of J. H. Thornley, Esq., of Philadelphia. In this tent the first meeting was held. A little north to the ravine—which ran down to the lake about where Pilgrim's Pathway lies—was a tent, occupied for a night or two by Alfred Cookman. Next to that, about where the Cookman Cottage stands, was the tent of E. H. Stokes; near him, still a little north, was R. J. Andrews, then Gardner Howland and Joseph Hillman, both of Troy. Next to them, adjoining Rev. B. M. Adams' cottage, were two tents and a boarding-table, kept by John Martin. George Franklin, with a few men engaged in clearing away the underbrush, had located, some time before, in a tent about where the Mathews cottage has since been built.

This was the company, and here, amid these rude arrangements, they enjoyed themselves for several days. They had religious services in their own tents, as they had in their families at home; but there was no united religious worship until Tuesday night, July 31st. At that prayer-meeting Joseph Hillman sung some of his wonderful songs, and the first meeting at Ocean Grove was one never to be forgotten in the annals of time or eternity. The names of the persons in the tent-meeting were as follows: Joseph H. Thornley and wife, Philadelphia; R. J. Andrews and wife, New Jersey; Gardiner Howland and wife, Troy, N. Y.; William Manahan, Long Branch; Joseph Hillman, wife and daughter, Troy, N. Y.; William B. Osborn, wife and son, Farmingdale, N. J.; George Hughes, New Jersey; Orville Howland and wife, Troy, N. Y.; J. H. Stockton, New Jersey; John Martin, wife and daughter, Greenville, N. J.; E. H. Stokes and wife, Red Bank, N. J.,—twenty-two in all.

Wesley Lake (then Lake Pond), now dotted with over four hundred nicely trimmed and painted boats, and Fletcher Lake (then Goose Pond), having twenty-three, had then but a





single craft,—a clumsy, superannuated fishing-boat, which Mr. Osborn had bought for a small sum of the fishermen along shore, and had christened her the "Barbara Heck." This craft could carry, without inconvenience, nearly, if not quite the whole population of Ocean Grove at that time at a single trip. Bishop Simpson and his lady honored this old craft with their presence, and in it sailed along Wesley Lake up through the wilds towards the bridge, and thought the ride was very fine. But, alas! one stormy night Wesley Lake, wearied with its long imprisonment, slipped out to sea, and with it carried the old "Barbara Heck," since which time all efforts for its recovery have been without avail.

Some days after the prayer-meeting referred to, Mr. Osborn thought we must hold a kind of camp-meeting. The place fixed on was about where D. H. Brown's cottage stands. Two loads of boards were hauled from Long Branch, pine logs were cut, and on these the boards were placed for seats. A stand, rude as could be, holding three or four persons, a little straw scattered around, and invitations to the few people in the neighborhood being sent out, we were ready for work.

Edgar Orville Howland, of Troy, N. Y., an exhorter, held the first religious service at this little camp-meeting, the theme of discourse being "partakers of Christ," suggested by Heb. xi. 14, the congregation numbering thirty or forty persons. It was a very small, but very good meeting. It soon came to an end, however, and we all went home greatly pleased and profited with our visit to the sea.

Up to the time of this meeting there had been no purchase of lands, save the one-third of a third of one hundred acres, fishing tract, directly along the surf, of Britton White, for fifty dollars. The deed for this had just been obtained, and Osborn, in company with Charles Rogers, went down to see his new possession. It was eleven acres of sand, nothing more, nothing less,—just as good and pure sand as the world produces! As they walked and talked, Rogers saw something at his feet that resembled a coin. He did not pick it up, but called Osborn's attention to it. He stooped and took it in his hand. They

both said it was a rusty old English penny, but upon further inspection it proved to be a Spanish silver dollar. This was regarded as an augury for good.

Soon after this it was decided to purchase a few acres, lying in the grove, immediately along the northern lake, and enough beach land to give us a passage to the sea; and here in this small compass a few of us proposed, in the simplest and most unostentatious way, to assemble from year to year, and enjoy our summer rest in bathing, fishing, worshiping or sauntering socially along the shore, free from the heavy cares which we felt resting upon us, welcoming from the immediate neighborhood such as might choose to join us in our simple service by the sea. It was no speculation, no scheme for raising money, no device of any kind; but simply and singly social, recreative and religious,—mainly, excepting the few neighbors who might desire to worship with us, for ourselves alone. The great world we did not seek, but shunned. We wanted simply to rest and recuperate.

As our plans became known, however, others wished to unite with us, and we were earnestly desired so to extend our enterprise as to include all who sought similar relief from the heavy cares of professional or business life. Yielding to this request, a meeting was held on the 22d day of December, 1869, in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Trenton, N. J., of which the lamented Lawrence was then pastor, and an association, consisting of thirteen ministers and thirteen laymen, was formed, and a charter soon after obtained from the New Jersey Legislature, under the following title: "The Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church." The following paragraphs precede the charter:

"Recognizing the beauty of the Scripture declaration 'The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof,' and being especially impressed with the propriety of having a portion of the land skirting the sea consecrated to sacred uses, we whose names are hereunto annexed, with a single eye to the divine glory, and in humble dependence upon our Heavenly Father's aid, do hereby solemnly covenant together to use cer-



tain land which has been providentially committed to our trust, for these high and holy purposes. And we further declare it to be our design to keep these lands a *perpetual* oblation upon Christ's altar, enjoining the same duty upon those who may succeed us. To this end we mutually pledge our Christian honor."

The by-laws declare the objects of the association to be as follows: "To provide for the holding of camp-meetings of an elevated character, especially for the promotion of Christian holiness; and to afford to those who would spend a few days or weeks at the sea-shore an opportunity to do so at moderate cost, free from the temptations to dissipation usually found at fashionable watering-places."

Any surplus funds remaining to the corporation after defraying the necessary expenses for improvements or otherwise are to be devoted to such benevolent objects as may be determined by the association at its regular meetings.

The names of the twenty-six original members of the association, each of whom paid twenty-five dollars to constitute a fund with which to commence our work, are found in the charter in the following order: Ellwood H. Stokes, Ruliff V. Lawrence, George Hughes, William B. Osborn, David H. Brown, John S. Inskip, William H. Boole, Benjamin M. Adams, Alfred Cookman, Adam Wallace, John H. Stockton, Aaron E. Ballard, William Franklin, Robert J. Andrews, Joseph H. Thornley, George W. Evans, Christopher Sickler, George Franklin, Samuel T. Williams, William Manahan, John Martin, George W. Cheeseman, James Black, Oliver L. Gardiner, Gardiner Howland and William F. Jordan. From the original twenty-six, a board of officers was elected, with the Rev. E. H. Stokes as president. He immediately felt, in assuming the duties of the office, that a great work had been undertaken, and said that inasmuch as all the members of the association had their callings, which absorbed their time, it was a necessity, in view of the magnitude of the enterprise, that the superintendence of the work upon the grounds should be the undivided business of some one person. So all felt. It was then proposed to secure from the New Jersey Conference the ser-

vices of Rev. W. B. Osborn as superintendent, which being done, the work commenced.

The incipient movements were to clear a part of the Grove from underbrush, stake out the lots, and secure, as soon as possible, a hundred subscribers for lots at fifty dollars each. This was soon done, and on the 1st day of June, 1870, the subscribers came to claim their property. It was mutually decided that the choice should be sold at auction. The first choice brought eighty-six dollars, and was paid by James A. Bradley, Esq., now of Asbury Park, for the lake lot (still vacant) lying between W. P. Breck's and the cottage of Rev. B. M. Adams. The premiums for lots on the ocean-front ran down as low as one dollar, and lots bought there for fifty-one dollars have since, in some instances, been sold as high as fifteen hundred dollars. The aggregate of premiums on that day amounted to fifteen hundred dollars, which was thought to be a great success.

The price of lots then advanced to seventy-five dollars, then to one hundred and twenty-five dollars, and finally to two hundred and fifty dollars. After this other purchases were made by the association; but the whole land question in connection with Ocean Grove has a history, which, if ever written in full, will be found to possess an interest amounting to more than romance, because thrilled with facts that pushed us out often to the crumbling verge of despair, and unless relief had come from God, must sooner or later have involved some of us, though innocent and pure in these transactions as the first-born son of light, in irretrievable disaster, if not utter ruin. But to the trusting heart there never yet was a Red Sea of difficulty that some Moses was not found ready and able to smite and divide the waters. So here. After eighteen months of weary watching, working, waiting and praying, till hope began to grow sick with the long delay, it was found that our title to a part of our lands, for which we had paid five hundred dollars, and on the strength of which we had surveyed our property, sold lots, and on which cottages had been built, was worthless! but could (as a *special favor to us*!) be made perfect by the payment of seventeen thousand dollars more. The





whole Ocean Grove property, consisting of about two hundred and sixty-six acres, was acquired by the purchase of ten different tracts, for which ten deeds had to be given. To validate these deeds required ninety-two signatures, but in the transfer (several different parties being interested in the same tract) some of the names had to be obtained as many as four times, and each time with increased difficulty. The actual number of different owners was forty-four. The following are the names of the parties from whom the grounds were bought :

Britton White.	James A. Bradley.
Caroline White.	Helen M. Bradley.
Theodore Fields.	James White.
Sarah Fields.	Sarah White.
James Fields.	William C. White.
Charlotte Hubbard.	Drummond White.
Susan Borden.	Hannah A. White.
Andrewetta S. Brinley.	Goyan Drummond.
Joseph White.	Divine Algor.
Sarah E. White.	John E. White.
William Thorne.	Youmans B. White.
Martha A. Thorne.	Henry White.
William Swanton.	Elizabeth White.
Ann Swanton.	Russell White.
Charles Rogers.	William W. Jeffrey.
Mary E. Rogers.	Jane Jeffrey.
William Fields.	Borden W. Sandford.
John Sickles.	Deborah Sandford.
Henry Fields.	Benjamin White.
Ruth Ann Fields.	Jennie White.
Jacob Fields.	Frances Corlis.
Helen R. Russell.	Martha C. Corlis.

And when it is remembered that these were scattered through different States, some minors, others in peculiar mental conditions, and all to be consulted, and such arrangements made with them as the almost endless variety of circumstances and views of the case demanded, the adjustment of the questions at all seems to us nothing short of divine interposition. The chief human agent in unraveling these entanglements was D. H. Brown, Esq., treasurer of Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association, whose patience in the matter has only been equaled by the intense desire he has felt to see all these questions brought to a satisfactory end.

The water question was in the beginning, one of great anxiety. There was plenty of water in the sea, in the lakes—all around—but what should we do for water to drink?

There were no springs, no living fresh-water streams. The prospects were discouraging. Sunset Lake seemed to be the most feasible source; but that was too far off. Finally, attention was called to the tube-pump, and it was thought it might work here. It was tried, and up to this time, with the hundreds of pumps now upon this ground, has proved a triumphant success. Better water, with a supply less likely to fail, hardly exists perhaps upon the continent.

After the 1st of June, 1870, lots were fairly in the market, and there were sold that year three hundred and seventy-three. During that year the first cottage was built—corner of Asbury Avenue and Kingsley Place—by H. Y. Lazear, then of Warwiek, N. Y., now of Chicago. In the winter, Messrs. Fuller and Haywood built, and in the spring of next year, Thornley, Stetson, Stokes, Mrs. Duffield and Mrs. Hulse. At the close of the year there were sixty in all.

The first camp-meeting held on these grounds commenced on Tuesday, July 26th, and closed on Friday night, August 5, 1870. It was well attended, the weather was delightful, the order perfect, and the influence, from its inception to the close, heavenly and divine. To accommodate this meeting, and that of 1871, tents of the Round Lake Camp-Meeting Association, numbering nearly one hundred and fifty, were hired, at an expense of five hundred dollars, with the additional cost of transportation from Round Lake and back, together with the wages, traveling expenses and the board of an overseer sent with them. After these meetings tents were purchased, and the association now owns a great number of them.

"It is important now," said President Stokes, "to call even more special attention to the object of this organization—and it is a pleasure to me to say that it is pre-eminently religious. All the members of our association must be members of the Christian Church. An act that would expel them from the church expels them from our association. All our business meetings commence and end with religious services. . . . Our rules, which have been the subject of much comment, especially by those who never read



them, we have published, and ask all to study. They are simply a mutual protection—not more for us than for you. If we sold our lots in fee-simple rather than by lease, you might have something offensive next to your cottage, which you have built for a pleasant summer retreat. If we allowed the transfer of a lot without our approval, you might soon be annoyed with most offensive neighbors. If we allowed the indiscriminate occupancy of cottages during the winter months by any who may chance to get the privilege, the danger from fire would be greatly increased, and the little summer adornments of your property might soon be destroyed by children and others who have little or no interest in the place. As it is, we allow no one to stay during the winter unless they are known to be proper and responsible persons, and there are good reasons why they should remain. When this is clearly shown, there have never been refusals for any to remain.

“The next rule that has called forth remark is that requiring our gates closed on the Sabbath. On this we simply say we are a religious place and a religious people. To open our gates on the Sabbath would disturb the outside world, make a great deal of unnecessary travel, break up congregations in the country for miles around us, and so unsettle us inside that one of the primary objects of our association—viz.: quietness and rest—would be defeated. I have just to say that with thoughtful people our Sabbath regulations are one of our chief attractions, and there is no human probability that these rules will ever be revoked. All our other rules are so obviously simple and reasonable that they do not even need a passing remark from me.”

On the 31st of July, 1875, at the sixth anniversary of the first religious meeting held upon these grounds, there was erected, as commemorative of that event, in connection with the anniversary exercises in Memorial Park, a “Memorial Vase,” at a cost of a little over one hundred dollars. The vase is of iron, and stands about eight feet high. It is designed, not simply as commemorative of the first religious meeting held upon these grounds, but as the members of the association die, their names will be

inscribed upon the marble panels found upon the several sides.

The panel facing Main Avenue has inscribed upon it:

OCEAN GROVE  
CAMP-MEETING ASSOCIATION  
OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.  
ORGANIZED DECEMBER 22, 1869.  
“HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD.”  
ERECTED JULY 31, 1875.

On the panel facing west is inscribed:

IN MEMORIAM:  
ALFRED COOKMAN,  
RULIFF V. LAWRENCE,  
GEORGE FRANKLIN.

Since 1875, when, at the anniversary meeting, President Stokes delivered the address embracing the history of the place down to that time, as above given, Ocean Grove has had a very great increase of population and importance, as will be seen by the account which follows:

The religious services and ceremonies at Ocean Grove are held chiefly in the open air, in the great Auditorium, and in the Janes Memorial Tabernacle, there being but one regularly organized church, and one (prospective) church edifice in the place.

The Ocean Grove Auditorium, as it now stands, has a capacity (including platform and camp-chairs) for seating about five thousand people. Its present location was fixed in 1870 by Rev. W. B. Osborn and the Rev. E. H. Stokes. Then a covered platform was erected, with a cupola, which contained a small bell. Pine plank were used for seats. These served for four years. In 1874 one hundred and fifty park settees were purchased of the New Jersey Conference Camp-Meeting Association at Pitman Grove, N. J. In 1875 a substantial frame, seventy-five by one hundred feet, was erected, and covered during the season with pine-boughs. It served for two camp-meetings, and in 1876 was roofed over and so used until 1880, when it was enlarged to one hundred and thirty-six by one hundred and forty-six feet, with outer posts eighteen feet high and centre posts twenty-four feet high. The building thus enlarged covers nearly half an acre of ground.





Association Hall was erected in 1871. It is of brick, sixty-five feet square, three stories in height, with a basement. The corner-stone was laid March 24th. The association occupied its business office early in July following, and on the 1st of August the building was dedicated. It is occupied by the business office of the association, the post-office, the executive committee rooms, the Library Association and committee rooms. A large hall is on the second floor, which is used for religious services. The tower of the building contains a four-faced clock and a bell weighing twelve hundred pounds.

The model of Jerusalem was donated to the association in 1880 by the Rev. W. W. Wythe, M.D. It is erected on the plat of ground north of Ocean Pathway, between Central and Pilgrim Pathways. It was inclosed every winter to protect it from storms, until 1884, when it was permanently inclosed.

The Bishop Janes Memorial Tabernacle is a frame building, sixty by eighty feet in size, having a capacity of seating one thousand persons. It was dedicated June 14, 1877.

ST. PAUL'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, at Ocean Grove, was organized in 1874, with the Rev. H. B. Beegle as pastor. His successors have been L. La Rue, 1875; W. Abbott, 1876-77; W. Barnhart, 1878-79; E. H. Stokes, 1880-82; Dr. W. W. Wythe, 1883; J. D. Westcott, 1884.

The Ocean Grove Association, in October, 1874, donated the land on which the church was erected and one thousand dollars to the building fund. The corner-stone was laid August 1, 1875, by Bishop Scott. The church was completed and ready for use May 28, 1876, and was dedicated by the venerable Bishop Edmund S. Janes, August 1, 1876. The building cost about eight thousand dollars. It was used until sold to the school district of Asbury Park, in the spring of 1882. From that time services have been held in Association Hall. The society has purchased a large plat of ground on Embury and New York Avenues, facing on Embury Avenue. The corner-stone was laid December 2, 1884. Owing to the cold weather, the exercises were held in Association Hall. The

Rev. W. W. Moffat, presiding elder of this district; the Rev. Dr. E. H. Stokes, president of the Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association; the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Lippincott, of Long Branch; the Rev. Messrs. George W. Bancroft, Samuel Dillingham and Samuel Jaquet, of Ocean Grove; and the Rev. William Franklin, of Ocean Beach, took part in the services. The congregation marched to the new lot, where Presiding Elder Moffat laid the corner-stone. The church will be a frame edifice, and cost about twenty thousand dollars.

In West Grove a chapel, thirty by fifty feet, was erected in 1883 at a cost of seven hundred dollars, where religious services are held and a large Sunday-school is taught. It is under the care of St. Paul's Church.

The following is a summary of the services held at Ocean Grove in the season of 1884, and is a fair showing of every year's services: There have been during the season: addresses, 574; memorial services, 7; original poems, 3; young people's meetings, 62; holiness meetings, 75; sermons, 59; Sabbath-school sessions, including three divisions—primary, intermediate and Bible class, 10; surf meetings, 10; children's meetings, 9; Bible readings, 7; special experience meetings, 19; Women's Temperance Union, 13; love feasts, 3; service of song, 3; twilight meetings, 11; stereopticon exhibitions, 2; lectures, 11; National Temperance Convention meetings, 14; New York Conference Temperance meetings, 4; chaplain reunions, 9; family devotions, 27; Young Men's Christian Association meetings, 3; Elizabeth, N. J., young people's day, 1; National Convention Methodist Seminaries, 1; Methodist Episcopal historical day, 3; fourth of July celebration, 1; Ocean Grove anniversary, 1; anniversary prayer-meeting, 1; Lord's Supper, 2; consecration meetings, 11; helping hand, 14; Mrs. Smith's, 8; mothers' meetings, 7; revival meetings, immediately following the camp-meetings, 5. Total number of meetings, 419: add to these all the addresses, sermons, etc., and there is a grand total of nine hundred and ninety-four as the result of the summer services.

The Ocean Grove Association entered into a



contract with J. P. L. Tilton and Stiles to run a line of stages between Long Branch and Ocean Grove. This line was continued until August 28, 1875, when the first railroad-train arrived at Asbury Park, and the stage-line was thus rendered unnecessary.

The water supply for the association grounds, prior to 1883, was obtained largely from the well in the cellar of the association building. In December, 1882, it was decided to make the experiment of obtaining water by means of an artesian well. As this was the first artesian well sunk on the shore, its progress is here described, as given from the report of the president in 1883. In reference to the need of water for fire and sewerage purposes, he says :

"To meet these requirements, an Asbury Park and Ocean Grove Water Company was organized two or three years ago, consisting of the best business men of both places. Numerous meetings were held, plans discussed, explorations made, money expended, and the result was that, after various efforts and delays, the company dissolved.

"Some of us at Ocean Grove held tenaciously to the thought that the water supply was beneath our feet. In this faith, the matter was brought before our last annual meeting (1882), and the project of sinking a test-well was favorably received, and referred to the executive committee with power. At the next executive committee meeting, held December 5, 1882, D. H. Brown reported that Mr. H. C. Safford, of Brooklyn, N. Y., would sink a well six inches in diameter, sixty feet deep, just south of the ice-house, for \$6.50 per foot. It was then decided to do the work at an expense not exceeding three hundred dollars. December 21st, it was decided to bore one hundred feet, if necessary. The weather continuing unfavorable, the work was not commenced until February, 1883. At the executive committee meeting, March 7th, there being no signs of procuring water at the depth of one hundred feet, it was resolved to bore fifty feet deeper. At the meeting, April 11th, still boring through impervious blue clay, a letter was received from Professor Cook, State geologist, accompanied with geological charts, urging us to proceed, with assurances that we would find water at the depth of two hundred and fifty feet. The order was given to bore two hundred feet. At the session of the semi-annual meeting, May 8, 1883, the depth of two hundred feet had been reached, and the same seemingly unending, stiff, almost rock-like, impenetrable blue clay continuing, the board of administration awaited further orders. Already fifteen hundred dollars had been expended. To stop now, with the probability of being in the immediate vicinity of water, would be not only an actual loss of that

amount, but a discouragement to all future efforts. It was therefore resolved to go fifty feet further, and still on, at the discretion of the executive committee. When the committee met, on the 16th of June, the depth of two hundred and seventy-five feet had been reached, and still stiff, blue clay. The prospects were not encouraging, but there was a deep and abiding conviction that we were on the line of water. The board was therefore authorized to go twenty-five feet deeper,—fifty feet, if found necessary,—indeed, to go on until water should be found. At two hundred and eighty-five feet a thin stratum of sand and shells was reached and a slight flow of water. It was like an oasis in the desert to the swollen feet and blistered lips of weary travelers. All hearts were jubilant, and faith increased a hundred-fold. The boring recommenced, and after passing about seven feet through the sand, without increase of water, the same kind of stiff, blue clay was again reached, which continued with but slight variations, involving toil, extending to weeks, and even months, expensive and testing faith and patience, to the last extreme. Many said, 'You will never find water.' And so we sometimes almost felt ourselves; but never quite losing courage, kept on, until at last we adopted, as a kind of watchword, 'Water or China.' Finally, through the oak land soils, through the pine land soils, through the upper marl bed, through the red sand bed, through the lower marl bed, at a depth of four hundred feet, laminated sands, according to the geological survey of Professor Cook, were reached, and we were in the water region. We thanked God and took courage; but our troubles were not at an end. The flow of water was small, and the difficulties in the way of developing the well were many. A four-inch iron pipe, four hundred feet long, was sunk to the bottom of the bore, and held there with cement. An inch and a half iron pipe, four hundred feet long, was placed inside the four-inch pipe for the purpose of forcing water down by means of a steam-engine, to wash out the sand and form a cavity at the bottom. The experiment was not at first successful. The small pipe met an obstruction, and would not go to the bottom, the machinery broke, the men became discouraged, almost demoralized. D. H. Brown, the treasurer, was incessant in his efforts to devise, encourage and help in the manipulations in all possible ways. Mr. Safford brought all his large experience to bear to insure success. Nothing was left undone. A week passed without much progress. Messrs. Brown and Safford were in constant consultation. All were intensely interested. To fail now would be not only failure to us, but a blight to all the efforts to secure water along the New Jersey coast. We were laboring for others as well as ourselves. Friday, August 10th, arrived. A last effort was to be made to sink the small pipe to the bottom. Mr. Brown and Mr. Safford tried all the morning, with but partial success; in the afternoon the efforts to pass the obstruction were continued.





At three o'clock something gave way four hundred feet below, and in three minutes the small iron pipe sunk twenty feet through the sand, below the bottom of the bore. 'What does that mean?' was asked. 'It means we have reached the sand bed,' said Mr. Safford. Immediately, the steamer threw down a stream of water from Fletcher Lake, with great force, and a wash of sand and water came up, a cart-load or two, in fifteen or twenty minutes. In half an hour the engine stopped, but the sand and water continued to flow of their own pressure. 'What does that mean?' was excitedly asked. 'It means,' said Mr. Safford, 'that we have struck water.' The interest grew and intensified. We watched and wondered—wondered and watched—and as the water and sand continued to roll out, rising four hundred and twenty feet to the surface, of their own force, grew almost delirious with joy. Hope had so long been deferred, and the heart had so often been almost sick, that the realization of our long-cherished desire seemed more like a dream than real. Our first promptings were to sing the Doxology. Then we took a bucket and measured the flow. Again and again we measured, so as to be sure there was no mistake. Then we found a barrel of forty-three gallons, which was filled in just one minute. It was now six o'clock P.M., and the water had been flowing three full hours without abatement. We left it for the night. The news spread with great rapidity. Next morning the water was still flowing, and there were crowds to witness the scene and offer their congratulations. Another measurement was had, and the flow was increased to a barrel in fifty seconds. Multitudes in coaches and on foot flocked to the scene all through the day, for days together, and the joy was general. By actual test, it was found that the water would rise in pipes twenty-eight feet above the surface of the ground. At eighteen feet nine inches above ground, the flow was one barrel of forty-three gallons in two minutes and thirty-five seconds, and at sixteen feet three inches, in one minute and forty seconds. After a week or so, upon consultation, it was decided to lead the water of the well through iron pipes, one thousand feet across the turnpike, just north of the head of Fletcher Lake, inside of Ocean Grove proper, and form a fountain, so that all passers along the highway could see it, until such time as we shall determine how best to utilize the flow. This was done, and on Sunday morning, August 25th, the first waters of the fountain flashed in the sun."

A quantity of the water of the well, in the best condition, was sent to New Brunswick, N. J., to be analyzed by Professor Cook, who, in his report, after giving the result of the analysis, said: "It is clear, bright and sparkling, and cannot but be wholesome. The source from whence the water comes, the taste of it, and its appearance are sufficient vouchers for its

good qualities. The mineral matter is so small in quantity that the water will be classed as 'soft,' so that it can be used for washing and for all other purposes where such water is desirable." The total cost of the well was \$3636.46.

This well is located a few feet south of the ice-house, near the railroad, a little south of the head of Fletcher Lake. From it the water is led, in four-inch iron pipe, across the turnpike to the head of Stockton Avenue; thence up Lawrence Avenue to Main, three thousand one hundred feet; down Main to Pilgrim Pathway, one thousand five hundred feet, in six-inch pipe, where it supplies a fountain; thence down Main Avenue one thousand two hundred feet, to plank-walk, two-inch pipe supplying a fountain there; up Pilgrim Pathway to the Auditorium grounds one thousand feet, in two-inch pipe, flushing water-closets, and thence eight hundred and thirty feet, one and a half inch pipe, supplying three other ornamental fountains in the Auditorium grounds. Public and private houses are also supplied, leaving a large overflow for flushing sewers.

The sewerage system of Ocean Grove was begun in 1880, and there are at present thirty-eight thousand one hundred and seventy feet, or seven miles twelve hundred and ten feet of pipes, fourteen thousand and twenty feet of which is six-inch pipe, sixteen thousand seven hundred and thirty feet of twelve-inch pipe, and seven thousand four hundred and twenty feet of ten-inch pipe.

The Washington Steam Fire-Engine Company, No. 1, of Ocean Grove, was organized in 1880 with forty members, Captain Lewis Rainear chief. The Ocean Grove Association own all the fire apparatus. In 1872 they purchased two fire extinguishers, valued at one hundred dollars. In 1875 the association purchased a suction engine and hose-carriage and erected an engine-house. In 1877, in addition to this apparatus, they procured a four-wheel truck, four ladders, fire-hooks, axes, buckets, four small fire extinguishers and a large-size four-wheel chemical-engine. After the organization of the fire company the apparatus was turned



over to the company. A first-class steam fire-engine, two hose-carriages and fifteen hundred feet of hose were purchased and an engine-house, twenty-four by forty feet in size, two stories in height, was erected on the south side of Olin Street, between Pilgrim Pathway and Central Avenue.

The place is abundantly supplied with water for fire purposes. The lakes on either side form a reservoir always available for the portions of the town near them. A fire-plug supplied by four wells driven on the edge of Centennial Park, furnishes water for a radius of fifteen hundred feet. The water from the main artesian well will soon be connected for fire purposes also.

Ocean Grove post-office was established in June, 1871, at which time there were not twenty-five people resident within a mile of the place. A little building occupied by Charles Rogers, near the Main Avenue gate, was made the post-office, and H. B. Beegle was the first postmaster. He opened the office for business June 30, 1871. The office remained in this building (now Elim Cottage) about six weeks, and was removed to a store building on the present site of the Janes Memorial Tabernacle, where it remained several years, until the building was removed to the site of Association Hall, where it remained in the building until the completion of Association Hall. The office was moved July 30, 1882, and opened the next morning, August 1st. Mr. Beegle has been the postmaster from the establishment of the office.

The room occupied for postal and telegraphic purposes is on the first floor of the main building, and is thirty-five by sixty-two feet, with iron columns supporting a ceiling thirteen feet high. The fixtures are of the most modern and approved styles, with seven hundred and seventy call and one hundred and twenty lock-boxes of the latest pattern. There are also three general deliveries, four call deliveries, one newspaper delivery, one stamp and postal money-order window, five boxes for depositing letters for mailing, and one telegraph window. Inside of the post-office inclosure is the mailing-room, for making up and distributing mails, postmaster's private waiting-room and telegraph-office, with

all other appliances needed in a first-class office room, the whole of which is lighted with gas. The work which incloses the post-office is of the Elizabethan style of architecture, built of white ash, California red wood, white pine, chestnut and other woods, with large square windows at the top for ventilation, working with pulleys. It is the design and workmanship of Anderson Hagerman, of Asbury Park, and cost the very low sum of eight hundred and fifty dollars, not including the one hundred and twenty lock-boxes, which cost three hundred and eighteen dollars and thirty cents. The whole expense of post-office arrangements, including lock-boxes, gas-fixtures and all complete, is over twelve hundred dollars, which is, in addition to the room in which the office is located, furnished wholly at the expense of the association, without remuneration from the general government in any way or form.

*The Ocean Grove Record* newspaper is published at Asbury Park by the Rev. Adam Wallace, who was the first editor and publisher. The first number was issued June 5, 1875,—a four-column quarto sheet. It is now a six-column paper, fifteen by twenty-two inches, devoted to Ocean Grove and its religious interests.

The bathing privileges of Ocean Grove were granted prior to 1876 to W. T. Street, whose time expired in that year. It was decided by the executive committee to locate permanently two bathing-places,—one near the foot of Wesley Lake, the other near the foot of Fletcher Lake, both to be under the same regulations, but conducted by different persons. The ground at the foot of Fletcher Lake was leased for five years to Mr. T. W. Lillagore, with the bathing privilege. Mr. Lillagore built two hundred and five bathing-houses and two pavilions. The bathing-houses and life-lines on the bathing-ground at the head of Wesley Lake, belonging to Mr. Street, were purchased by the association and leased for one year to George Evans. In 1877 they were leased for a term of years to Joseph Ross, who increased the number of bathing-houses to three hundred and sixty, and added twenty-four, in which are excellent arrangements for hot and cold salt-water baths. He also built





a building for a restaurant and two pavilions. In 1884 he had seven hundred bathing-houses and Lillagore eight hundred. The houses of both bathing-grounds are amply supplied with hot bath-rooms and bathing-suits, bathing-masters and life-boats. Large pavilions are also on each property, with restaurants and places of refreshment.

ASBURY PARK is in the northeast corner of Neptune township, between Great Pond (now Deal Lake) on the north, and Long Pond (Wesley Lake) on the south, between this place and Ocean Grove.

The land on which both Asbury Park and Ocean Grove are now located was granted to Gavin Drummond, November 2, 1692, and confirmed to him November 12, 1701. It was described in parcels as "Ye meadow on Little Pond (now Sunset Lake), Long Pond (Wesley Lake), Goose Pond (now Fletcher Lake) and on Duck Creek, by Shark River." These seem to be the meadow-lands along the ponds or lakes. Drummond afterwards took up and purchased other tracts in the vicinity. From that time to 1869 this tract was in possession of different parties, and was a wilderness, uncultivated and uninhabited, except by an occasional fisherman. The causes that brought about the purchase of the land for a summer resort have been often narrated, but they will be mentioned somewhat in detail here as pertinent to a historical account of Asbury Park. The story is here given as told by James A. Bradley, a brush manufacturer of New York City, the original proprietor of the Park,—

"One afternoon in May, 1870, I was walking down Broadway, New York, and suddenly ran against my friend, David H. Brown, Esq., treasurer of the Ocean Grove Association. 'How is Ocean Grove getting along?' I asked. 'Very fairly,' said he, 'why don't you buy a lot? Those who have their names put down now have first choice.' 'Well, put me down for two,' said I. A few days after, in company with Rev. W. H. Boole and George W. Cheeseman, of Birmingham, Conn., Rev. Mr. Saxe and others, we started for Ocean Grove. We took the boat for Port Monmouth, thence by railroad to Eatontown. The sea-shore route was opened a few days afterwards. After dining at Mr. Brown's country-house at Eatontown, we drove to Ocean Grove in carriages.

The turnpike company had just commenced operations, and from Great Pond to Ocean Grove was one of the worst roads that could well be imagined. I was completely taken with Ocean Grove and its surroundings—so much so that I purchased the first lot ever sold there, the premium being eighty-five dollars.

"Having for some time previous been in bad health, I concluded to try what I had been recommended—sea-air. So, a few days after purchasing the lots, taking two horses, carriage and tent, and John Baker, my colored man, I left the hum of the busy city behind, to become an inhabitant of the wild woods, where my wearied body and brain might rest, lulled to sleep by the murmuring sea at night, and awakened in the morning by the songs of birds in the pine-trees surrounding my couch.

"John and I arrived at Ocean Grove just at night-fall, and having got our horses under shelter, we hastened to erect our tent. It was too dark to get poles, so we hung the tent on the beams of what was afterwards the association office, the first building ever erected in Ocean Grove. The building at that time was without roof. We were without light, and soon after lunching on some crackers we lay down to sleep, our heads resting on the carriage cushions, and our covering being the carriage blankets. So we spent our first night in Ocean Grove.

"In the morning Baker sighed and said, 'Mr. B., this is a wilderness place.' He was homesick; for, let the reader, who, perhaps, has been on the same spot during the busy summer season, and heard the continuous click of the telegraph instrument and seen the vast throng of men and maidens call for their letters when the mail arrives, remember it was far different on the morning of which we are writing; although it was the 10th of June, not a soul was within hearing distance of us. I cheered him by saying: 'Oh! don't be cast down,' and soon we were eating our morning lunch. That finished, we proceeded to my lots on the lake, and pitched our small tent on the ground now built upon and owned by Rev. Alfred Cookman's widow. My large tent was erected on the lot now owned by William P. Breck, Esq., and so we began our Crusoe life. During the day we occasionally saw Mr. Franklin's men, who worked about the grounds, and at night we were left to our solitude. Mr. Franklin's men tented on the lots now covered by the Hayward cottage, but on Sundays went to their homes, in the interior of the township.

"One evening Baker and I took a stroll along the ocean and I proposed a bath. Baker smiled and said 'No, no.' 'But remember, John, cleanliness is next to godliness.' I took an ocean bath; but, oh, how different from the way bathers usually enjoy the surf. The waves dashing over their heads. I laid down on the soft sand and allowed the water to just touch my body, and I can tell you, reader, it is somewhat lonely to trust yourself in the great ocean in the twilight and alone. After I had been lying on the beach for a



little while, I looked around to see what had become of Baker. He had plucked up courage by my example and had really divested himself of his clothes, and, coward like myself, barely allowed the water to touch him. His dusky skin was somewhat in contrast with the white sand, and never before did I realize the relation that must have existed between Robinson Crusoe and his man Friday.

"During the camp-meeting that took place in August, we often heard the inquiry, Who owns the land on the other side of the lake? One day Rev. William B. Osborn and myself went over, and, at the risk of having our clothes torn from our bodies, worked our way through the briars until we reached Sunset Lake. And, like the red man of whom we read in history, we could say 'Alabama—here we rest;' for we stood on the banks of as beautiful a sheet of water as can be found anywhere. We returned to the Grove by way of the beach, and soon set to work to make up a company to purchase the land. We soon learned the owner would not sell the land in parcels, but the purchaser must take the whole or none. Here was a difficulty; five hundred acres! 'Never mind,' said some one, 'there's a pile of money to be made, and the more land we have the more money we will make.' Our company was to consist of eight persons, some of whom were very enthusiastic; but, alas! when the cool nights of autumn came along, it chilled their enthusiasm, and their example had its chilling effect on me. But I often thought of the matter, and as soon as I heard that Bishop Simpson, of the M. E. Church, urged the Ocean Grove Association to purchase it, to prevent its falling into the hands of some one who was not in sympathy with the enterprise they had in their hands, I called on David H. Brown, and proposed he should join me in the purchase by taking one-eighth, the price asked being about ninety thousand dollars. 'No,' said he, 'I am determined to have nothing to do with any enterprise in that neighborhood that would seem to place me in an inconsistent position, as I am now treasurer of the Ocean Grove Association. This I will do; I will write to every member of the association, and if they say buy, I am inclined to think I shall not oppose it, although I think we have enough land now. But if they do not buy it, you can. And as you wish me to negotiate the purchase, I will do so, on condition that you advance the requisite amount to secure the property, and if the association decide to take it, your money to be refunded. We are to have a week's option to consider the matter.' A majority of the association decided not to purchase the land, although some urged it very strongly; so the property became mine; I, at the same time assuring them that the property would be resold only to such parties as would appreciate the situation of the place. After the purchase, the briars before alluded to, with the tangled underbrush, were removed at a cost of several thousand dollars. And very few would now suppose that

the choice spots upon which are now erected beautiful cottages was so recently a jungle."

Mr. Bradley, foreseeing the demand for land for settlement along the shore, commenced the purchase of land at different places. The tract on which Asbury Park is situated contained three hundred and eighty-seven acres, then in the township of Ocean (now Neptune). This and two other tracts were purchased of Luther Elting, January 24, 1871, the three tracts containing six hundred and fifty-eight acres. A portion of the first tract mentioned was platted and laid out into lots fifty by one hundred and fifty feet, fronting on avenues from seventy-five to one hundred feet in width. The parks were also located and the place was named Asbury Park, in honor of Bishop Francis Asbury.

After grading had been properly commenced, and the grounds laid out under a well-devised and considered plan, the lots were offered for sale to such, and such only, as would build upon them. Park Hall, a two-story frame building, was at once erected. It stood where H. Steinbach & Co.'s brick store now is. This building was the headquarters of all business connected with the place, and, almost without exception, all the churches, societies and other enterprises have been organized in this hall. It remained upon its original site until the fall of 1882, when it was moved to its present location, where it is now used as the offices of Board of Commissioners, Sewer Works, Board of Health, Artesian Well Water Company, and courtroom. The police station is also connected with the building.

On the 4th of March, 1874, an act was passed to incorporate Asbury Park. This act provides and declares:

"That James A. Bradley, Lybran Sill, Isaac McFarland, A. J. Brown, Abram H. Morris, W. L. Atkinson, George C. Ormerod, W. Windsor, William F. Wilson, William Miller, A. E. Hemsted, Theodore S. Woolley, Poiset Cross, Richard B. Campbell, Washington White, Jeremiah Bennett, Henry Campbell, James Hagerman, John A. Githens, John H. Beegle, William T. Street, Lewis C. Greene, Justice W. Beardsley, Theodore Oves, Alpha J. Kynett, William H. Parker, David H. Wyckoff, Isaac L. Martin, John Langford, Peter J. Cox, James H. Orr, George W. Weikel, William I. Gill, William H. Pearne, Allan





R. Cook, George Atkins, J. C. Morgan, Harrison Dixon, William W. Wimer, Thomas Perrins, William H. Deitz, Uriah White and Reseau Brown, and all other persons who may be legal voters in said Borough of Asbury Park, be, and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, in fact and in law, under the name and title of the Borough of Asbury Park, in the township of Ocean, county of Monmouth, to have, hold and exercise, all and singular, the privileges and powers hereinafter described.

"That the boundaries of the said Borough shall be as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point in the middle of Great Pond where it empties into the Atlantic Ocean; running thence westerly through and up the centre of said Pond to the west line of the New Egypt and Farmingdale Railroad, as now graded; thence southerly along the west line of the same until it reaches Wesley Lake; thence down the centre of Wesley Lake to the Atlantic Ocean; thence northerly along the shore of said Ocean to the place of beginning.

"That it shall not be lawful to sell, vend or barter spirituous liquors, ale, beer or any intoxicating liquors of any kind whatsoever, within a distance of one mile from Wesley Lake Bridge, at Ocean Grove, and Asbury Park, in Monmouth County, State of New Jersey, except for medicinal purposes, at regular drug stores, and under the prescriptions of regularly practicing physicians; any person or persons offending against the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and fined fifty dollars and costs for each offence, said fine to be paid to the overseers of the poor, for the support of the poor of the county."

James A. Bradley has been president of the Board of Commissioners from the first to the present time, with the exception of 1883, when N. E. Buchanan held the office. Isaac C. Kennedy was clerk until 1878, and was succeeded by Caleb T. Bailey, the present business manager of Mr. Bradley. The following-named are the present officers of the borough of Asbury Park: Commissioners, James A. Bradley, (president), Bruce S. Keator, M.D., Theodore Oves, Myron S. Gould, Edward M. Fielder, James H. Romain, John Rockefeller. Chief of Police, C. T. Bailey; Clerk, C. T. Bailey.

The borough fire Department was commenced by the purchase of the La France steam fire-engine that is now in charge of the Wesley Steam Fire-Engine Company, No. 1. This company was organized in 1871, and has at present fifty members. The valuation of engine and real estate, including fifteen hundred feet of hose, is

six thousand dollars. The engine-house is located on the corner of Bond Street and Mattison Avenue.

The Independence Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1, whose building is adjoining the Wesley Fire Company, was organized in 1879 and incorporated November 8, 1881. It now has twenty-five members. Its house, lot and apparatus is valued at one thousand dollars.

The Neptune Steam Fire-Engine Company, No. 2, whose engine-house is on Main Street, between Asbury and Sewall Avenues, was organized in December, 1882, and incorporated January 5, 1883. It has now a membership of sixty. The steamer was originally a Silsby, but was afterwards altered to a La France. The valuation of the real estate, engine and fifteen hundred feet of hose is seven thousand dollars.

The Allen R. Cook Chemical Engine Company was incorporated April 30, 1884. It is composed of eighteen young men. The engine and hose are valued at five hundred dollars. The house is adjoining that of the Neptune.

In addition to the engines mentioned, Mr. James A. Bradley has five hand fire-engines valued at five hundred dollars, located at the following places: One in rear of Glendale Cottage, Seventh Avenue, north side, near Packard Street; one at southeast corner Fifth Avenue Pavilion; one at Asbury Avenue Pavilion; one at Asbury Park stable-yard, Main Street, between Fourth and Fifth Avenues; and one at Park Hall. The Fire Department is under the charge of S. W. Kirkbride, chief; Jacob Borden, assistant chief. In 1877, Educational Hall, on the Centennial Grounds at Philadelphia, was purchased by Mr. Bradley, taken down and erected on Grand Avenue, between Second and Third Streets. It is used for local entertainments and religious services. It has a seating capacity of two thousand.

Entirely as a private enterprise, Mr. Bradley, in 1881, began laying sewer-pipes. Since that time sixteen miles of pipes have been laid through all the streets, so that every lot can be sewered. Of the eight hundred and ten cottages in the Park, over six hundred are in connection with the sewer system of the place.

At Asbury Park is the railway station,



which also accommodates Ocean Grove, there being no station at the latter place. In 1883 a station was located at North Asbury Park. Following are given the railway statistics of Asbury Park and Ocean Grove for the year 1883, viz.:

Number of passengers arrived and departed during June, July, August and September . . . . .	600,000
Highest number in one day . . . . .	2,500
Highest number excursionists in one day . . . . .	5,500
Highest total arrival and departure one day . . . . .	8,000
Total number excursions . . . . .	112
Total number trains one day . . . . .	103
Pieces baggage handled one day . . . . .	2,150
Pieces baggage handled during the season, including express baggage . . . . .	71,000

The post-office was established at the Park in October, 1874, with James A. Bradley postmaster. He served until January 1, 1884, when P. G. Snedeker was appointed, and he still holds the office.

At a meeting of the citizens of Asbury Park, held December 2, 1884, a resolution was adopted that "the borough be bonded to erect artesian water-works, at a cost of not over sixty thousand dollars, and that the commissioners be requested to appoint a committee to endeavor to secure the proper legislation at the coming session of the State Legislature."

The town is supplied with gas, and six miles of pipe were laid in the spring of 1884.

A Board of Health was organized in 1882 under the charter. The board has done good and efficient services by reason of which Asbury Park is now one of the most healthful places on the coast. The following are the present officers of the Health Board: H. Mitchell, M.D., president; J. A. Bradley, W. F. Paddock, John H. Hagerman, N. E. Buchanan; E. Wright, inspector; George H. Cole, assistant inspector; Randolph Ross, clerk.

The following is a summary of the Park as given in the *Asbury Park Journal*, September 10, 1880:

"Asbury Park was the first seaside resort on the

American continent to adopt a perfect system of drainage. We have fifteen miles of street mains. Our sewage is discharged into the ocean and is carried away by the current. We have miles of walks; an Ocean Plaza one mile long, and from sixteen to thirty-two feet wide.

"Asbury Park has seven church edifices,—Episcopalian, Reformed, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist and African. Hotels, boarding-houses, stores of every variety necessary to a large population are established; weekly papers with circulation of over 3000 copies; a post-office, salary, \$2300; two public halls—one, Educational Hall, being the same name it bore when it stood on the Centennial grounds, at Philadelphia—seating over 1500. We also have an opera house seating about 1200. There are 800 cottages, beside hotels. The finest Masonic lodge-room in Monmouth County was erected by the late Allen R. Cook, who was for a long time the esteemed superintendent of Asbury Park. We have also one of the best planned school-houses in the State, the building alone costing nearly \$10,000; the school lot was donated, and fronts on three streets, and is 200x200. Asbury Park was assessed in 1869 for \$15,000; the assessed valuation in 1883 was over \$1,500,000.

"Streets running at right angles to the sea are from one to two hundred feet wide, an advantage possessed by no other seaside resort on the New Jersey coast. The depot grounds are the finest on the line of the Long Branch Division of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and, with adjoining streets, cover four acres, including magnificent woods."

The first store erected at Asbury Park was by Washington White. It was afterwards enlarged, and became, in 1873, the Lake View Hotel, the first one opened in Asbury Park.

The first brick building was erected in 1879 by Allen R. Cook. It is the Cook building, including the Masonic Hall.

The Opera-House, on Sewall Avenue, near Grand, was erected in 1882, at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars, by Frank Patterson. It has a seating capacity of twelve hundred.

The following leading hotels were erected in the years mentioned, viz.: Lake View, opened in 1873; Grand Avenue, 1873; Hotel Brunswick, 1873. This building was first called the Philadelphia House, and at the time of its erection was the farthest out of any. It was enlarged, remodeled and its name changed to the present one in 1880. The Sea View and Ocean View Hotels were built in 1877; the Surf House, Hotel Bristol and Coleman House, in 1878. The latter occupies a block between





Asbury and Ocean Avenues. It is the leading hotel, and was built and is still owned and conducted by Mrs. S. L. Coleman. The Gilsey was opened in 1881. Besides these, there are over one hundred smaller hotels and cottages for summer boarders.

The *Asbury Park Journal* was established in 1876, by James A. Bradley, the first issue being January 29th in that year. Until June, 1878, it was printed at the office of the *Brooklyn Eagle*. In that month John K. Wallace, of Philadelphia, established the Asbury Park Printing-Office, and the paper was then printed in that office, the first issue being June 1, 1878. John L. Coffin, who from the first had been assistant editor, became the editor and proprietor January 1, 1882. It was then enlarged to eight columns. In the April following, the office was moved to the present building. On June 1, 1883, a summer daily journal was begun, and continued through the months of June, July and August. It is to be continued as a summer daily.

On September 1, 1884, the *Monmouth Republican*, which had been printed by J. K. Wallace since June, 1883, was merged into the *Journal*, and business conducted under the firm-name of J. L. Coffin and J. K. Wallace. The *Ocean Grove Record*, edited by J. K. Wallace, is published at this office.

The *Shore Press* was established by A. L. Thomas and Dr. H. S. Kinmonth. The first issue was on July 10, 1879. In 1880 it was sold to Jonathan Ingling, and soon after purchased by the Shore Press Publishing Company, and edited by Robert P. Miller. In 1882, Frank Patterson leased it. Miller was continued as editor for a time, and J. T. Crane succeeded him. In the latter part of 1883, R. J. Wardell became the editor and continued until October, 1884, when the paper was purchased by C. T. Hendrickson, who employed W. K. Devereux as editor.

The *Daily Spray* was a paper issued in June, July and August of 1884 by W. K. Devereux & Co.

The *Artesian* is published in the cause of temperance. It was commenced in the early summer of 1884, and is published at irregular intervals.

TRINITY CHURCH (Episcopal) was the first church established at Asbury Park, being organized in 1872. A few Episcopalians visiting at Ocean Grove desired to hold a service on the grounds, to which strong opposition was made. They then decided to hold meetings in Asbury Park, then in its infancy. The Rev. George H. Watson, of St. Peter's Church of Freehold, commenced a missionary work in an open lot opposite the present church edifice. In August, 1875, James A. Bradley donated a lot on the corner of Asbury and Grand Avenues, and a church building was soon after begun, and completed in 1877. It was not, however, consecrated until September, 1880, when the services were conducted by Bishop Scarborough. It has since been enlarged. The Rev. Eliot D. Tomkins succeeded Mr. Watson in the latter part of 1875.

In October, 1879, the Rev. William Capers was called to minister to the society in connection with Tom's River. It was at this time a missionary station, and in February, 1880, it was made Trinity Church parish. Mr. Capers resigned as minister, and was called at once by the vestry and wardens of Trinity parish as the first rector. He served until January, 1883, when he resigned on account of ill health. He was succeeded soon after by the Rev. William B. Guion, who remained one year, and was succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. George F. Breed.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH at Asbury Park was organized in 1878. A lot was donated by Mr. Bradley, on the corner of Grand and Second Avenues, on which the present church was erected, and was dedicated December 2, 1880. Meetings were held in the school-hall prior to this time. The Rev. J. E. Peters was the first pastor. The present pastor is the Rev. E. E. Moran.

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF ASBURY PARK was organized February 9, 1875, with twelve members. Mr. Bradley donated them a lot on Grand and Sewall Avenues, on which, in June and July of that year, a chapel was erected. This being too small, the corner-stone of a new chapel was laid out on the same lot April 11, 1883. The edifice was completed and ready for use August 5th in that year. The Rev.



F. F. Wilson and Edgar A. Enos served as pastors, and on January 13, 1880, the present pastor, the Rev. William H. Ballagh, was installed.

THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ASBURY PARK was organized in March, 1880, with one hundred and fifty members. Service was held in Educational Hall until the church edifice was completed on Grand and First Avenues, at a cost of twenty-three thousand dollars. The corner-stone was laid August 16, 1883. Pastors have been W. H. Boole, B. C. Lippincott and J. S. Gaskell, the present pastor.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH was organized at Asbury Park, in Park Hall, on May 1, 1877. The Rev. Thomas R. Taylor became their pastor and remained until May, 1884. A lot on Bangs Avenue was donated by Mr. Bradley, and the present church was erected in 1880, and used till August, 1883, when it was dedicated. In 1882 a parsonage was built. The property is valued at thirteen thousand dollars. A call was extended to and accepted by the Rev. — Colby, who entered upon his duties November 30, 1884. The church has a membership of one hundred and sixty-five.

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT was organized in 1880, and in February, 1881, Father Michael S. Glennon was appointed to the charge, and still continues. A church was erected on Second Avenue and Bond Street, and consecrated July 8, 1880.

THE BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH is situated on Second Avenue and Main Street. The Rev. W. H. Dickerson is pastor.

The Salvation Army, in the fall of 1884, erected a large building on Main Street, between Summerfield and Munroe Avenues.

The Young Men's Christian Association, after several preliminary meetings, was organized at Asbury Park February 9, 1884, with fifteen members. A room was offered them by Mr. Bradley in a building next the post-office, which they accepted and still occupy. The rooms are open to members and visitors every evening except the Sabbath. The membership

has increased to seventy-five. The following are the present officers: Professor R. A. Tusting, president; Frank Cobb, first vice-president; Aden Lippincott, second vice-president; R. Ross, recording secretary; F. Miller, corresponding secretary; M. R. Hults, financial secretary; M. D. Le Roy, treasurer. Executive Committee: Professor R. A. Tusting, A. Lippincott, M. S. Gould, P. G. Snedeker, Dr. A. Pauley and H. A. Outcalt.

THE ASBURY PARK AND OCEAN GROVE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION was incorporated in 1882. Two lots, at First and Grand Avenues, were donated by Mr. Bradley. A building is now in process of erection upon these lots. The association has five hundred members. Meetings are held every Monday evening, from October to June, in the rooms occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association. The property is vested in a board of trustees, of which Mrs. J. A. Bradley is president and J. A. Bradley treasurer.

The first school at Asbury Park was taught by Miss M. Crowell (a niece of James A. Bradley) in 1872, in the lower room of Park Hall. As members increased, the upper hall was taken, and the demand still increasing, both were used. Sixty scholars attended before this was made a district. Application was made for a district in March, 1874, which was granted, and the district formed, embracing Asbury Park and Ocean Grove.

A block of six lots was donated by Mr. Bradley, on Bond Street, between Munroe and Summerfield Avenues, on which a temporary school-house was erected and used for a time. In the fall of 1876 the present frame two-story school-house was erected at a cost of ten thousand dollars, and was opened for use September 12, 1877. The number of scholars still increasing, the trustees, in the spring of 1882, purchased of the trustees of St. Paul's Church their edifice, situated a short distance from the Main Avenue gates to the grove, paying therefor eight thousand dollars. It was remodeled, fitted and furnished at a cost of four thousand dollars, and opened in September of that year.

A school building was erected in West





Asbury Park in 1883, and opened in September of that year. It is a colored school.

These schools have an average attendance of six hundred and twenty children. The census gives fourteen hundred children of school age in the district.

Miss Crowell, the first teacher, had as an assistant, while in Park Hall, Miss M. L. Coffin, and upon the retirement of Miss Crowell, in 1875, Miss Coffin became principal, and served until the completion of the new school-house, in 1877, when George Allord was chosen principal. He served until September, 1882, when Professor W. D. Ireland, formerly of Long Branch, was appointed, and is still in charge.

Asbury Lodge, No. 142, F. and A. M., was chartered in the fall of 1875 with eight charter members. Meetings were held in White's Hall until Masonic Hall was completed, in 1880. It is in the third story of the Cook building, and was dedicated July 28th in that year. The lodge contains about seventy members. The Past Masters have been T. S. Wooley, Jeremiah Bennett, John A. Githens, J. D. Beegle, L. Rainear and John L. Coffin. The present W. M. is D. W. Sexton; D. H. Loudenslager is the Secretary.

Corson Commandery, No. 15, K. T., was chartered in the fall of 1880, and has at present sixty-five members. The officers are Thomas H. Redway, P. E. C.; J. D. Beegle, E. C.; D. H. Loudenslager, Recorder. Meetings are held in Masonic Hall.

Coast City Council, No. 813, Royal Arcanum, was organized November 28, 1883, in Manning's Hall, where they still meet. They now number forty members. M. F. Bird is Regent, George M. Lane Secretary.

Neptune Lodge, No. 84, I. O. of O. F., was organized in 1883; meetings are held in White's Hall. The lodge has fifty members. The officers are Albert Willis, N. G.; Charles T. Harrison, Secretary.

C. K. Hall Post, No. 41, G. A. R., was instituted April 7, 1880. Meetings were held in White's Hall until rooms in Manning's Hall were completed, in 1882, when they moved to and still occupy them. The officers are A. R.

Toland, Commander; George H. White, Senior Vice-Commander; William B. Brown, Junior Vice-Commander; D. Wright, Adjutant; George Warren, quartermaster. Membership, fifty.

Monmouth Lodge, No. 107, K. of P., was instituted May 5, 1875. Meetings are held in Manning's Hall.

Good-Will Division, No. 187, Sons of Temperance, was instituted in December, 1881, in Manning's Hall, where they continued until the next year, when they moved to their present quarters, in Prohibition Hall. Frank Harrison, W. P., and W. H. Longstreet, Recording Secretary.

MOUNT PROSPECT CEMETERY is the burial-ground of Ocean Grove and Asbury Park, and lies directly west of the latter. In 1882, Willisford Dey, of Ocean Grove, and Edward M. Fielder, of Asbury Park, purchased thirty-five acres on rising ground, one hundred and nine feet above the sea, one and a quarter miles from Ocean Grove and one mile from Asbury Park, in the township of Neptune. This was laid out with walks and avenues and nearly two thousand lots, and set out with evergreens and shrubbery. The grounds were named Mount Prospect Cemetery, commanding a view seaward as far as the eye can reach,—northward to Long Branch, and south to Manasquan. It was dedicated June 25, 1883.

The resident physicians of Asbury Park are Dr. J. A. W. Hetrick, Bruce S. Keaton, H. S. Des Anges, Samuel Johnson, H. W. Garrison, G. F. Wilbur, S. D. Evans, H. S. Kinmonth, Henry Mitchell and R. Tusting.

THE ALMSHOUSE FARM is a tract of land containing seven hundred and twenty-eight acres, that is bounded southerly and easterly by Shark River and Musquash Brook, northerly by the highway, and westerly by North or Jumping Brook, and is now in the possession of the townships of Atlantic, Ocean, Neptune, Eatontown, Howell and Wall, in Monmouth County, and Dover and Brick, in Ocean County.

On the 14th of May, 1800, the Freeholders of Monmouth County appointed William Laird, John Stillwell and Jacob Holmes "for to make Enquiry When and on What Conditions they



could Procure Lands, Or house, Or Either, Or Bouth, and to make Report to this Board at their next meeting." This action was the first effort to establish a county poor farm. The committee reported August 14th following that they had fixed on a place near Colt's Neck, "but as yet were not certain of obtaining it." They viewed other tracts, and reported upon each. The committee was continued, and on the 28th of January, 1801, they reported the purchase of land of William Parker, for four thousand dollars, the deed bearing date January 27, 1801. The land is described as seven hundred acres, more or less, lying on the north side of Shark River, and known by the name of "Hog Pound Neck." At this meeting Theophilus Little, Jacob Holmes, William Laird and John Stillwell were appointed a committee to draw plans for and build a poor-house on the land, and to rent the place for one year from April 1, 1801. On the 3d of March in that year Jacob Holmes presented a plan, which was accepted, and gave an opinion that two thousand dollars would place upon the ground all the material necessary for the buildings. The committee also reported that, in their opinion, the building, which was to be fifty feet front and thirty-four feet in depth, would cost four thousand dollars—perhaps four thousand five hundred dollars. It was built as soon after this time as possible, and was occupied by the county. Each township appointed a trustee to compose a board of managers. The farm was enlarged later to nearly a thousand acres. Two hundred and seventy acres were afterwards sold, leaving at present seven hundred and twenty-eight acres. The farm and buildings were used by the county until 1843. Prior to that time some of the townships were dissatisfied with the arrangement and desired a township farm. This dissatisfaction resulted in the passage of an act of Assembly, February 16, 1843, to allow Dover, Middletown and Howell to sell real estate. A supplement was passed February 14, 1852, to allow Raritan to sell; later, other townships sold their rights, and at present the townships of Atlantic, Eatontown, Ocean, Neptune, Howell and Wall, of Monmouth County, and Dover and Brick, of Ocean County, own the entire tract, as before mentioned.

SHARK RIVER VILLAGE, otherwise known as Greenville, Hamilton and Coburg, is situated in the southwest corner of the township of Neptune, near the line of Shrewsbury, on the road that runs north of and nearly parallel to Shark River, above where the stream widens.

At this place before 1734 a Presbyterian meeting-house was erected on the lot where the old cemetery now is at Shark River village. It is mentioned in a road record of November 6, 1789, and again April 23, 1790. It was used as late as 1803, but was soon after abandoned. The old church was one of the preaching-places of the Rev. Samuel Blair, Rev. Elihu Spencer and the Rev. Charles McKnight during the Revolution.

The land in this vicinity was owned, in 1800, by James Fleming, who inherited it from — Cook, whose daughter, Rebecca, he married. The "Trap Tavern," so called from trap rock, that crops out at this place, was opened before 1812. In 1815, Elkanah Stout became the landlord, and kept it for several years. It stood in front of the present residence of Captain A. J. Rogers. It was discontinued many years ago.

In 1812, Elihu Williams built a store on the site of James Simpson's present residence. About 1825, Michael Howell built a hotel, and kept it several years. It was kept afterwards by many, and went down over twenty years ago. In 1834, Richard Stout built the brick blacksmith-shop, and worked in it for thirty years. George Shafto built a large store at the village many years ago, which was destroyed by fire. William Barnes erected a building on the site, and kept store and post-office eight or ten years, then sold out to Captain A. J. Rogers, who was appointed postmaster and still holds the office.

East of Shark River village, on one of the branches of Shark River, John Fields, about 1825, built a grist-mill on the site (it is said) of an old forge. The mill is now owned by Bowman Kisner. On Shark River, below the village, William Remsen, in 1859, built a grist-mill, which is now unused and belongs to his heirs.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH at





Shark River is a little more than half a century old in its organization, though mention is found in the journal of the Rev. Francis Asbury, of Methodist preaching at Shark River as early as 1792. Preaching was held in private houses for many years, and it was not until 1833 that a Methodist Church was organized. The Rev. David Bartine officiated at the services. On August 23, 1847, the society was incorporated, and the following were chosen as trustees: Henry Youmans, Robert B. Morris, Daniel Dangler, David J. Morton, Drummond White and John Hunter. A lot of land was donated for church and burial purposes by Asher Howland, and the church was soon after built and dedicated by Father Bartine. Among the ministers who have served are William Abbott, 1864-66; George L. Dobbins, 1867-68; W. F. Randolph, 1869-70; William Osborn, 1871; S. M. Stone, 1872-73; ——— Mason, 1874; J. S. Thomas, 1875; A. J. Gregory, 1876-77; J. S. Wilson, 1878-79; W. E. Perry, 1880-82; J. W. Grant, 1883; H. S. Norris, 1884.

Neptune township contains five school districts,—Hamilton, New Branch, Whiteville, Green Grove and Asbury Park. An account of the last-named district is given in the history of Asbury Park.

Hamilton District, No. 80, now contains one hundred and seventeen children of school age. The first school-house was built on the present school-lot, which was donated by John Ely about the beginning of this century. It is now on the farm of John Tilton, the house having been repaired and rebuilt, and is still in use for the school.

New Branch District, No. 80½, contains at present one hundred and twenty-three children of school age. This is a new district, formed by the settlements at Key East and Neptune, near where the house stands. It was built in 1877.

Whitesville District, No. 88, is in the central part of the township. The first school-house was built of logs, about 1828, about half a mile south of Whitesville, in the pines. It was abandoned about 1840 and a school-house erected on the present site in 1845, which was used until

1872, when it was moved to the rear of the lot and the present house erected. It is two miles from Ocean Grove. The district contains two hundred and eighteen children of school age.

Green Grove District, No. 90, was formed in 1860. It embraces parts of Shrewsbury and Neptune townships. The school-house was built in 1861. The district now contains fifty-three registered scholars.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

ALLEN R. COOK was born August 25, 1818, near Mechanicsville, then Shrewsbury township, now Ocean. His father, Edward Cook, died about 1866, aged seventy years. His mother, Elizabeth Cook, died in 1858, aged about sixty years. He had only one brother, Joseph, who went West many years ago. In early life he learned the tanning business at Lippincott's tannery, and subsequently engaged as a miller in the Ocean Mills, and was afterwards with his uncle at what was known as Hyer's Mills. Subsequently he purchased the Henry Bennett farm, on Shark River, on which the Hotel Newport is now situated, and still later he owned the Hyer mill property, which he soon sold and purchased a farm at New Branch of his father-in-law. In 1842 he married Mrs. Deborah, widow of the late Mahlon Woolley (1810-39) who resided at Eatontown until 1836, and removed to Shark River, where he died three years after. Mrs. Deborah Woolley (1809-81), was a daughter of John and Margaret (Britton) Fields, and by her first marriage had two children,—George P. Woolley (a farmer in Wall township) and Margaret (wife of Louis C. Green, who succeeded his father, Captain James Green, for many years proprietor of the Bath Hotel, at Long Branch).

In 1872, Mr. Cook came to Asbury Park, and from that date until his death, April 31, 1883, was foremost and prominent in its improvements, and from January, 1872, until his decease efficiently acted as superintendent of Asbury Park. He held many minor offices in the township,—in 1858 was made wreck-master of the Merritt Wrecking Company for this district, and two years afterwards he was appointed



agent of the Board of Underwriters, to which he always gave prompt attention.

Mr. Cook was a man of noble, generous impulses, and took pleasure in assisting those in need. His acts of kindness were not made public, nor were his benevolent deeds ostentatious. His death produced a universal feeling of sorrow, both with permanent and transient residents. He was an ardent Mason, and to his generosity Asbury Lodge owes its handsome rooms on the

of Asbury Park met at Park Hall and passed appropriate resolutions expressing sorrow at the removal of their much-esteemed citizen by the hand of death, sympathy for his bereaved family, and requesting the business places of Asbury Park to be closed during the solemn funeral services of their fellow-citizen. Another writer said of him soon after his death: "Since the founding of Asbury Park there has been no more familiar form—save one—to be seen on



*A. R. Cook*

upper floor of his brick building, corner of Cookman Avenue and Main Street. He was buried with Masonic honors, and his remains were interred in the Branchburg Cemetery, near the spot where he was born. Allen R. Cook was reared under Quaker influences, and until he removed from the scenes of his younger days was an attendant at the Friends' Meeting in Shrewsbury township. Upon the occasion of his death the commissioners of the borough

our streets than that of Allen R. Cook, the superintendent." Early in the history of the place, almost from the beginning, had he been identified with its interests and that of its people. By his marriage he had two children, who died young.

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NELSON E. BUCHANON.—John Buchanon, the grandfather of Nelson E., resided in Perth Amboy, Middlesex County N. J. His children



*[Faint, illegible text, possibly a signature or title]*

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were George, John, James, Anthony, Joseph, Betsey, Eliza and Margaret. James, of this number, was born about the year 1821 at Perth Amboy, from whence he removed, in 1859, to Red Bank, and subsequently to Hunterdon County, his present residence. He married Sarah Ann, daughter of Philip Elgordon, of the latter county, and to them were born children,—Nelson E., Jacob, John, Philip, James and Sarah M. (wife of Silas Case, of Hunterdon County). The eldest of this number, and the subject of this biographical sketch, was born on the 30th of August, 1841, at Perth Amboy, and at the age of fourteen removed to New York City, where he remained two years in the capacity of clerk. Not satisfied with his meagre advantages of education, he returned to his birth-place and devoted three years to more thorough study, removing, at the expiration of this period, for a brief interval to New York. Mr. Buchanan, in 1860, made Lambertville, Hunterdon County, his residence, and became engaged as salesman for a firm extensively interested in the lumber trade. He later removed to Flemington, in the same county, and acted in like capacity, changing his location, in 1866, to Eatontown, in the employ of B. C. White, also a lumber dealer. In 1873 he located at Asbury Park, and, in connection with Garret V. Smock, purchased the interest of Mr. White, making Asbury Park the base of operation. They added to their stock general building supplies, and very speedily established a large and successful trade. In 1881 the firm underwent some changes, and the present style, N. E. Buchanan & Co., was adopted. The exceptional success of the business may be indicated by their annual sales, which the first year amounted to forty thousand dollars, and in 1883 reached the sum of two hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars.

Mr. Buchanan has manifested his public spirit by participating in nearly every movement having for its purpose the growth and development of Asbury Park. In 1874 he was elected to the office of township committee of Ocean township, when Asbury Park was a part thereof, and by re-election served two years. Upon the erection of Neptune township from

Ocean, leaving Asbury Park in the former, he was elected as one of the commissioners of the borough, and by re-election twice, held the office for five years, part of which time he was its chairman, and for four years its treasurer.

He was for seven years trustee of the School Board, during which time the first school buildings were erected, at a cost of ten thousand dollars, and he has sought to advance the educational interests of the place. He is also at present a member of the Board of Health of Asbury Park, representing in these various offices the suffrages of the Democratic party. He is an active Mason, and member of Asbury Lodge, No. 129, of that fraternity, as also of Hiram Chapter, No. 1; Corson Commandery, No. 15, of Knights Templar, and United States Lodge, I. O. O. F., of New York. He is in religion a supporter of all evangelical denominations, though especially in sympathy with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Buchanan was, in 1870, married to Althea S. Collins, a native of Chenango County, N. Y., and a daughter of William Collins, of Monmouth County. Their children are Louisa, William J., Arthur and Bessie.

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JOHN S. RIPLEY.—Mr. Ripley is of English extraction, his great-great-grandfather, who was a physician, having been one of the earliest settlers in Norwich, Conn. The grandfather of John S. Ripley, a sea-captain, was lost while on a voyage to the West Indies. Among his children was John, born at Groton, New London County, Conn., where many years of his life were spent as a farmer. He married Sally, daughter of George Crary, of North Stonington, Conn., and had children,—John S., Nathan C., George S., Leander H. and Sarah (Mrs. Allen E. Davis). The birth of John S., of this number, occurred August 18, 1834, at Groton, Conn., the period of his youth having been spent at Groton, Preston and Norwich, Conn., respectively. After preliminary study at the public school he became a pupil of the Plainfield Academy, and at the age of nineteen entered upon his profession as a teacher, his first experience being in his native State, after which he removed to Monmouth County, N. J. In August, 1862,





*From the original portrait by J. H. P.*

*N. E. Buchanan*





during the late war, Mr. Ripley joined the First Rhode Island Volunteer Cavalry, and participated with the Army of the Potomac in the engagements at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville and in various skirmishes. Returning again to civil life, he was, on the 26th of December, 1867, married to Johanna, daughter of Ellhanan H. Stout, of Monmouth County, a descendant of Penelope Stout, and granddaughter of Ellhanan Stout, son of Judge Stout, of Hopewell,

relinquished by Mr. Ripley in favor of his partner, he having, meanwhile, purchased and remodeled the present West End Hotel, of which he is now the popular proprietor. This structure, now the largest at that point, has undergone various improvements, is well equipped, spacious and now ranks as the leading hotel at that attractive sea-side resort. Mr. Ripley is one of the most energetic and enterprising citizens of Asbury Park, and has in no small degree en-



*J. S. Ripley*

N. J. Their only son is named Eugene S. Mr. Ripley, on his marriage, embarked in mercantile pursuits in Norwich, Conn., and, in 1872, removed to Asbury Park. Here he purchased lots, and, foreseeing the prosperity that awaited the development of the place, erected the first hotel, known as the Grand Avenue, of which he became joint proprietor with his brother-in-law, Lybrand Sill. This enterprise, conducted in the most business-like manner, was finally

couraged the healthy growth of the place. An influential representative of the Republican party, he has invariably declined all offices other than those which are closely allied to the educational interests of the community. He is connected, as a Free and Accepted Mason, with Asbury Lodge, No. 142. His religious association is with the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Asbury Park, in which he has been an elder since its organization, and is one of its most liberal supporters.

The following is a list of the names of the members of the University of Chicago who have been elected to the office of the President of the American Philosophical Association for the year 1911-1912. The names are arranged in alphabetical order of their last names.

NAME	DEGREE	INSTITUTION
ALLEN, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
BROWN, J. H.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
CLARK, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
COLEMAN, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
CRANE, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
DICKINSON, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
EDWARDS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
FERGUSON, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
GILBERT, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
HARRIS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
HUGHES, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
JONES, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
KELLEY, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
LEWIS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
LYNCH, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
MANN, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
MARTIN, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
MCCOY, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
MILLER, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
MURPHY, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
NICHOLS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
OLIVER, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
OSBORN, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
PETERSON, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
ROBERTS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
ROSS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
SCHMIDT, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
SMITH, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
SPENCER, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
STEWART, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
SWANSON, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
TAYLOR, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
TELFORD, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
THOMAS, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
TRACY, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
WATSON, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
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WYATT, J. W.	Ph.D.	University of Chicago

## CHAPTER XXXI.

## EATONTOWN TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Eatontown was formed from parts of Ocean and Shrewsbury townships by an act passed in 1873, erecting it within the following-named boundaries, viz.:

"Beginning at Cranbury Brook, where it crosses the line of said townships of Ocean and Shrewsbury, and running easterly down said brook or stream, the several courses thereof, to the Long Branch corporation line, the saw mill now standing upon or over said stream, to be considered in the aforesaid township of Ocean, and the Ocean Mills, standing upon or over said stream, to be considered in the township of Eatontown; thence running along the westerly line of said corporation to the railroad leading from Eatontown to Long Branch; thence northeasterly to the southeast corner of John E. Pye's land; thence north to the South Shrewsbury River, being the boundary line between said townships of Ocean and Shrewsbury; thence westerly to the point of land known as Horse Neck, at the end of a new road; thence westerly along said new road or highway to the turnpike leading from Red Bank to Eatontown; thence southerly along said turnpike to the junction of the road leading from Eatontown to Tinton Falls; thence westerly along said road towards Tinton Falls to the corner of the road leading from the northwest corner of John G. Vanderveer's farm to the Half-way House; thence southerly along said road or highway to the place of beginning."

The boundaries of Eatontown township are: On the north and northwest, Shrewsbury River and township; on the east, Pleasure Bay, Ocean township and Long Branch corporation; on the south, Ocean township; and on the west, the township of Shrewsbury. The north part of the township is crossed by the New York and Long Branch Railroad, and also by the Eatontown Branch, which connects with the main line of the New Jersey Southern Road at Eatontown Junction, in the northwest corner of the township. The population of Eatontown township, by the census of 1880, was two thousand six hundred and forty-two. The following is a list of chosen freeholders of Eatontown township from its erection to the present time, viz.:

- 1873-74. Lawrence Price.
- 1875-76. Gordon Drummond.
- 1877-78. William T. Hopper.
- 1879-80. John S. Lufburrow.
- 1881. Frederick Beale.
- 1882-84. George N. Maps.

EATONTOWN is the principal village of the township, situated in its northwestern corner, four miles west of Long Branch, and on the line of the New Jersey Southern Railroad. The village takes its name from Thomas Eaton, who settled about 1670 on the creek that passes through the town, where he soon after built a grist-mill. He came to this country, in 1660, from Goodhurst, Kent County, England; landed in Rhode Island, settled there temporarily and married a widow named Wing, who had two children—Joseph and Ann. The latter married into the family of West, in Monmouth County.

Thomas Eaton built a house on the site of E. C. Fielder's residence, and lived there till his death, October 26, 1688. In his will he left the mill property to his wife, Jerusha, in trust for her child, who was born after his death (March 26, 1689). He was named John Eaton, and by the provisions of his father's will came into possession of the estate at the age of twenty years. He married Joanna, daughter of Eliakim Wardell, who lived on the site of what is now called Monmouth Beach. John Eaton was in the Legislature of the State from 1723 until his death, October 25, 1750. When first entering into public life he was one of three chosen to represent the interest of Eatontown and vicinity in the location of the county-seat. In 1714 an election was held, and the decision of the justices gave the election to the minority, composed of John Eaton, Edmund Lafetra and Henry Allen. This action aroused the people and protest was made to the court, resulting in an injunction restraining the Eaton party from acting in the matter and giving authority to Henry Leonard, James and Peter Wilson, who were the majority committee. It was the desire of one party to locate the county-seat at Middletown, another at Eatontown and a third at Freehold, where it was finally established in the year 1715.

Joseph, son of John Eaton, went to Massachusetts, studied medicine and returned to Eatontown with a diploma and a wife, who was the daughter of Zaccheus Mayhew, and the widow of William Little. It was from William Little, a son of Mrs. Joseph Eaton, that one branch of the Littles in this county sprang, carrying with it the name Mayhew, that often occurs as a Christian name in the family.

On the return of Joseph Eaton to the home





stead, about 1735, he commenced the practice of medicine, in which he continued until his death, April 5, 1761. It is said he built the old house (still standing), which for many years was occupied by Dr. John Lewis.

Joseph Eaton early developed anti-slavery proclivities, which are shown fully in the case of the State against Lyon in 1789, where testimony was taken in the case of a slave who claimed to be free because her mother had been emancipated by Dr. Joseph Eaton, who, in his lifetime, had repeatedly declared himself opposed to slavery.

Valeria, a daughter of John Eaton and sister of Joseph, became the wife of Dr. Peter Le Conte, who settled in this county before 1734, and located in Middletown Point, where he died in 1768.

Thomas Eaton, also a son of John, settled at Elizabeth. A daughter, Joanna, in 1750, became the wife of the Rev. Elihu Spencer, who at that time was supplying the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church of Shrewsbury and Middletown. From them are descended the Rev. Dr. Samuel Miller and the Sargents, well known in the judiciary of Pennsylvania. Dr. Joseph Eaton had a son who settled here for a time, but the family once so prominent is to-day extinct in this county.

There was a tavern in Eatontown, which was an old building before the Revolution, but the name of the proprietor is not known. From 1796 to 1809, Benjamin Parker kept a store-house, later occupied by George White, and long since torn down. It was a little east of the old Dr. Lewis store, recently demolished. About the same time Joseph Parker and Daniel McAfee were keeping a store where Ezra Woolley is now located.

About the year 1808, Joseph Parker built on a lot back of the printing-office a schooner, which was named "Eatontown." When it was finished it was drawn by oxen and horses down the road to the property now of Thomas White, and from thence across the fields to the head of the creek on the farm now owned by the heirs of Peter Casler, where it was launched. The craft was about thirty tons burden. The distance from where it was built to the launching-place was about one mile. It took three days to draw it to the launching-place, and crowds of people gathered to see the vessel move on land.

Joseph Allen, the father of James Allen, of

Shrewsbury, kept a store after 1800 on the lot now owned by Littleton White. Gabriel and James West moved up to the village from the farm about 1820, and opened a store on the lot where now stands the parsonage of St. James' Episcopal Church. They continued in business until the death of James, after which Gabriel continued until 1870, when he sold to W. R. Stevens, who removed to his present store. The house and store lot was left by Gabriel West to the church for a parsonage. James and Gabriel were brothers of Edmund West, who is still living at the age of ninety-four years.

Before 1820, Joseph Lafetra built a tannery on the southeast of the Liberty Pole. Afterwards this was rented by Benjamin C. White, who continued there until 1862 or 1863, when he purchased the present tannery lot and erected the buildings. In 1872 the tannery was bought by Benjamin Hathaway, and in 1876, after his death, the property passed to Borden B. Sherman, of New York, who now owns it.

In 1833, Joseph Barclay first went into the mercantile business in Eatontown, in the old Dr. Lewis store, which was built in the previous year. He remained until 1835, and sold to Henry White. In 1838 he bought out Joseph Parker, and carried on business with his son until 1839, when the store was burned. Joseph Barclay, above mentioned, was afterwards a judge of the county courts. He was born in 1793, and is now living in the village in his ninety-second year. Many of the facts given in this history relative to Eatontown and vicinity from about the year 1800 have been obtained from Judge Barclay.

Gordon's "Gazetteer" of 1834 says of Eatontown: "It contains about thirty dwellings, five or six stores, two taverns, a grist-mill and an academy, and is also a post-town."

The Eatontown post-office was established about 1830, with Dr. John P. Lewis as postmaster. He served until his death, in February, 1861, when Benjamin C. White (who had acted as deputy for many years) was appointed postmaster. He continued until June 14, 1877, and was succeeded by Daniel H. Morris, the present incumbent.

The Wheeler House (hotel) stands on the site



of an old tavern that stood during the Revolution. At the close of the war it was occupied and kept by Mrs. Deborah Williams, widow of John Williams. Afterwards it was kept by Thomas Little, Jacob Dennis, Asher Smith (the latter sold the property in 1823, and purchased the Charles Parker tavern-stand, at Smithville, on the Mount Holly road), Charles R. Brinley, George Campbell, George Wilson and others. About 1861, John J. Wheeler purchased the property and carried on the old tavern until its destruction by fire, on the night of December 10, 1873. During the following summer he erected upon the site the present three-story brick hotel, known as the Wheeler House, and kept it until 1878, when he was succeeded by Peter Hall, the present proprietor.

About a mile from Eatontown, at what was known as Barclay's Corners, now owned by the Monmouth Park Association, in about the year 1805, Samuel Woolley erected a dwelling and store-house, which, about 1818, was bought by Samuel Harvey, who fitted it up as a hotel, which he kept till about 1830. After that time it was kept by Anthony Van Pelt and Amos Wolcott until 1857, when it was purchased by Joseph Barclay and changed into a store and residence.

The Columbian House (hotel) was built in 1831, on property of Dr. John P. Lewis, by members of Washington Lodge, No. 9, F. and A. M. Dr. Lewis afterwards bought their interest in the house. It was kept first by Joseph Doty, later by Kruser Snediker, John Rogers and others, and on March 30, 1873, it came into possession of Captain John S. Lufburrow, the present proprietor.

On the stream that passes through Eatontown, and which is one of the head-waters of South Shrewsbury River, Thomas Eaton erected a grist-mill soon after his settlement at this place (about 1670). It is mentioned in a road record of 1693. He died in 1688, and left the mill property to his wife Jerusha, in trust for their unborn child. The child was John Eaton. The mill came to him at twenty years of age. Under his management a fulling-mill was built (about 1715) near what is now the centre of the pond, the old mill being a little farther up the stream. The mill property passed from John Eaton, on April 26, 1716, to

Gabriel Stelle, who ran it till October 30, 1730, when John Redford became the owner. It passed from his executors to Humphrey Wady, who, in 1761, sold it to Joseph Potter. In August, 1769, Potter conveyed it to Hans Jacob Rettiker, but in a few years it came back to Potter again. After his death it came to Lydia, his daughter, who married Peter Wolcott, the father of the late Henry W. Wolcott. At this time there was no grist-mill and only the remains of the fulling-mill, which stood northeast of the present site. Peter Wolcott erected the present mill. He was a carpenter, and also kept a store in the house which stands near the mill. The mill property afterwards came into the possession of Lewis Smith and Gabriel West, by whom the undershot wheel was changed to an overshot. It later passed to White & Richmond, and is now operated by J. H. & C. A. Richmond.

The first physician who practiced at Eatontown or in its vicinity was Dr. Joseph Eaton. He studied medicine in Massachusetts, and practiced here from 1734 to his death, in 1761.

Dr. John P. Lewis, of whom a more extended notice will be found in the history of the Medical Society, was a son of David Lewis, of Shrewsbury. He settled here before 1812, and lived in the Dr. Joseph Eaton house. He died February 26, 1861, aged seventy-three years. A son, Dr. Edmond Lewis, also practiced here for a time.

Dr. W. S. Kimball, a native of New York and graduate of the New York Homœopathic Medical College, settled at Eatontown in 1854. He was the first of that school to practice in the county of Monmouth. His summers are passed at Monmouth Beach, where his ride extends along the coast. He is also physician to the Branch Home, near Eatontown.

Dr. Charles Van Derveer came to Eatontown in 1858, and remained until he entered the army, in 1862.

Dr. O. Goodrich, a native of Berkshire County, Massachusetts, and a graduate of New York Medical College, settled in Eatontown in 1859, when well advanced in years. He practiced four or five years and then abandoned active practice. He retains this as his home, but is much of the time in New York.





Dr. S. H. Hunt came to this county from New York as a teacher, studied medicine, practiced here, served in the army as surgeon, and in 1868 settled in Eatontown, and was in practice until December, 1871, when he removed to Long Branch, where he now resides.

Dr. W. B. Beach settled in Eatontown in 1882, and is still in practice.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF EATONTOWN dates back in its history more than thirty years. For several years prior to 1852 Methodist services had been held in the school-house on Railroad Avenue, now used as a dwelling. In 1851 it was decided to erect a church edifice, and a lot was purchased of the Smith estate and a house erected, which was dedicated March 24, 1852. At that time it was under the charge of the Rev. B. Weed, who continued through the next year. Among the pastors who have served since that time are the following-named: T. S. Moore, 1854-55; John L. Souder, 1859-60; G. K. Morris, 1861-62; T. A. Morrell, 1865-66; J. F. Morrell, 1870-71; J. Lavalley, 1874-75; A. M. North, 1876-77; N. J. Wright, 1878-79; A. J. Gregory, 1880-81; W. H. Allen, 1882-83; S. T. Grimes, 1884.

THE EATONTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH<sup>1</sup> dates back in its organization nearly thirty-five years. The first sermon was preached in Eatontown November, 1843, and was a Baptist sermon. There was then no church in the place, and, excepting the Society of Friends, but two professing Christians to be found. The gospel was, however, received with popular favor.

The missionary, Rev. T. S. Griffiths, removed to the West in 1850, and was succeeded by the Rev. Robert T. Middleditch in the pastorate of Red Bank church, of which Eatontown was an out-station. The Red Bank church had so grown as to require all the time of its pastor upon its immediate field. This led to the organization of an independent church at Eatontown. The first step in this direction was taken in 1851, by the erection of a small house of worship. Constituted with seventeen members in 1852, they were recognized

as a Baptist church by a council composed of delegates from the following churches: Red Bank, Middletown, Holmdel and Hoboken. On application, the church was admitted into the East New Jersey Baptist Association.

Rev. Charles A. Votey accepted a call to become their first pastor. He was a plain and earnest preacher and a good pastor. Under his labors they were much encouraged; upwards of twenty converts were added to the church during his first year's settlement. Aid from the State Convention was sought, and one hundred and fifty dollars was appropriated to them. The church received a handsome communion service and a pulpit Bible from Mr. E. Wade of New York City. Also a suitable hymn-book was donated by Sarah Fleming. During the second year of his pastorate Mr. Votey closed his labors with the church and removed West. A period of declension followed. Two years the church was without a pastor. Regular preaching services were discontinued and many dropped away from the membership. In June, 1856, Mr. Teed accepted a call to become their pastor. The next February they ordained him. For two years his pastorate continued, and then for two years afterwards the church was without either pastor or clerk, and without any preaching whatever. Only a weekly prayer-meeting was kept up. In 1860, Rev. Augustus Pawley was settled. The church was under a cloud. Debt on church property, besides financial reverses, paralyzed the little body. For some months the church was again without a pastor. In 1862 the church was supplied for a time by a Mr. Keybold. At this time there was a great falling away from the membership. The debt had not yet been removed from the church, and the question of disbanding and selling the property was often discussed. The membership was reduced to seven, but for whose fidelity and perseverance the property would have been sold by the sheriff. They kept the interest paid up on the mortgage and managed to stay off the threatened foreclosure. Without a pastor or clerk till 1870, they managed to hold the property. This they accomplished also in part by renting the house to different denominations—the Presbyterian and Episcopalian—who were then without houses of their own. In 1871 the church received several accessions from Shrewsbury and Red Bank. This gave a new

<sup>1</sup> By Rev. A. N. Whitmarsh.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. This includes both traditional manual methods and modern digital technologies, highlighting the benefits of each approach.

3. The third part focuses on the role of the management team in overseeing the data collection process. It stresses the need for clear communication, regular reporting, and a strong commitment to data integrity.

4. The fourth part provides a detailed overview of the data analysis techniques employed. This includes statistical methods, trend analysis, and the use of specialized software to interpret complex data sets.

5. The fifth part discusses the challenges faced during the data collection and analysis process. These include issues related to data quality, consistency, and the potential for bias or error in the results.

6. The sixth part presents the findings of the study, summarizing the key insights and trends identified from the data. It also includes a discussion of the limitations of the study and suggestions for future research.

7. The seventh part concludes the document by reiterating the importance of data-driven decision making and the role of the organization in promoting a culture of data literacy and transparency.

impetus and permanently strengthened them. In 1872 a new and prosperous era dawned upon the church. Encouraged by valuable assurances, which have been more than fulfilled by these new elements, a Sunday-school was organized, and at Long Branch (a long-neglected, though important field) a mission interest was started,—a hall secured, in which the gospel was regularly preached by the newly-settled pastor, W. D. Seigfried; and aid was solicited by Deacon Smith, of Red Bank, and Horace Waters, of New York, for the support of the gospel. The sister churches responded generously. Red Bank contributed over eighty dollars towards a pastor's salary, and thus, by efforts at home and abroad, nine hundred dollars was pledged to support a pastor.

In June, 1872, the church withdrew from the East New Jersey Association, and, on application, was received into the fellowship of the Trenton Association. In October, 1873, Rev. S. V. Marsh accepted the call of the church and became their pastor. During his ministry one hundred were added to the church. The members living at Long Branch were organized into a branch church, under care of the church at Eatontown. The Rev. Mr. Marsh resigned in 1876, and in October of the same year the Rev. Jabez Marshall became pastor and continued till September, 1880. He was succeeded, in the November following, by the Rev. A. N. Whitmarsh, who was installed January 11, 1881. He continued to serve the church until 1883, when he was succeeded by the Rev. William S. Russell, the present pastor.

ST. JAMES' MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH at Eatontown is of recent date as to the organization of the parish, yet it properly dates back more than half a century, to the time when the Rev. Harry Finch, soon after he became pastor of Christ Church in Shrewsbury, in 1830, began to hold Episcopal services in this place, at first in private houses and later in the Masonic Hall. These were held at irregular intervals for many years. In May, 1863, the Rev. Thomas Taylor began stated services in the Baptist Church, which were continued for nearly three years, until, in 1866, a parish was organized, concerning which the following, from the minutes of the church, is here given:

"The project of organizing a parish in the village was considered for some time, and the advantages to the cause of true religion generally discussed, till at length, on the evening of Wednesday, March 7, 1866, a meeting of all those favorable to such an organization was held in the Baptist Meeting-House."

At this meeting it was resolved that the parish be styled "St. James' Memorial Church in Eatontown." Gabriel West was chosen senior warden and Dr. O. Goodrich junior warden. At this meeting the Rev. Thomas J. Taylor was called to become their rector. It was proposed to build a memorial church to James West and others. A lot was purchased on the 16th of April, 1866, of Peter Lippincott, and the corner-stone of a church building was laid, August 8th the same year, by the Rev. T. M. Riley, of Navesink, and the Rev. George G. Hepburn, of Bricksburg. The church was built of stone, twenty-four by fifty-two feet, at a cost of six thousand dollars, nearly all of which was contributed by Gabriel West. A chancel window was placed in the church by Mr. West, in memory of his three children. The bell was the gift of Benjamin D. Sherman, of New York. The church was opened for services July 17, 1867. Bishop William H. Odenheimer made his first visit here November 23, 1867. The church edifice was consecrated June 19, 1868, by Bishop Odenheimer, assisted by sixteen visiting clergymen.

In 1877, Mr. Gabriel West died, and in his will provided that his residence should be used as a parsonage. He also left about nine thousand dollars as a legacy to the church.

The Rev. Thomas Taylor resigned the rectorship March 1, 1867. He has been succeeded by Rev. William R. Earle April 14, 1867, resigned November 29, 1868; Rev. Alfred Goldsborough, Easter Sunday, 1869, resigned December 29, 1870; supplies until May 14, 1870, when Rev. D. C. Loop took charge. He resigned December 1, 1873; Rev. Dr. Anthony Ten Broeck, September 6, 1874, died September 22, 1880; Rev. D. C. Loop July 24, 1881, resigned August 23, 1883. The Rev. W. H. Capers began October 21, 1883, and is still rector.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH at Eatontown is a part of the Presbyterian Church of Shrewsbury, and not a separate organization, but under





the care of that church. Its services had been held in the old school-house for many years. In 1877 it was decided to erect a house of worship for the members of the Shrewsbury Church living in this locality. The present church lot was purchased on Main Street and a church erected at a cost of about five thousand dollars. It was opened for service in 1878. The Rev. Thaddeus Wilson is the present pastor.

THE EATONTOWN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH was organized in 1840, under the Rev. Noah Brooks. In 1845, a lot south of Eatontown, on the road to Deal, was purchased of Morris Ryall, and the present church building was erected. The Rev. Dempsey Kennedy was then in charge. Among the parties who have preached there are John A. King, Joseph P. Thompson, James Livingston, James Davis, William Pitts, John White, — Palmer, and the present pastor, Elijah Harnett. The church has now forty members.

THE SECOND ADVENT CHURCH was commenced about 1840. Services were held in this locality for about thirty years. In 1869 a church was erected on South Street. The pulpit was filled by supplies until 1872, when the Rev. S. W. Bishop was settled; he served two years. From that time Esek Woleott, a layman, has filled the pulpit. The church has fifty members.

The first newspaper published in the village of Eatontown was called the *Eatontown Republican*, having what is known as a patent outside, and the local a reprint of the *Tom's River Courier*. It was published by George M. Joy, then editor of the *Courier*. The first issue was September 21, 1871, and it ceased to exist after about a year.

The *Eatontown Advertiser* was established by James Steen in January, 1877, and was published as a monthly until June in that year, when George M. Joy became the editor, and it was from that time published as a weekly. In the fall of 1878 the name of *The Monmouth County Jerseyman* was added. In February, 1879, Mr. Joy sold his interest in the paper, and the *Eatontown Advertiser* remained with James Steen, its founder, who has since that time been also the editor. From Mr.

Steen a large part of the facts have been obtained with reference to the early settlers and churches of Eatontown, Shrewsbury and Middletown, for which the writer desires to express his thanks.

Washington Lodge, No. 9, F. and A. M., of Eatontown, is one of the oldest lodges in Monmouth County.

There has come down to us but a very meagre history of any Masonic organization in Monmouth County prior to the year 1815. In the year 1769 a warrant was granted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to William Bostwick and others for a new lodge at Middletown. This is all that is known of its history.

In 1787 a dispensation was granted to open a lodge at Freehold, to be known as Trinity Lodge, No. 3, but the warrant was surrendered in 1793. At the session of the Grand Lodge, in 1807, a warrant was granted, and Trinity, No. 20, was organized at Middletown Point, but went into oblivion before 1813.

There was no lodge in existence, or, at least, at work, in Monmouth County in the year 1815, when John P. Lewis and some others made application to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and obtained a warrant for the organization of Shrewsbury-Washington Lodge, No. 34, to be located in the township of Shrewsbury, in the county of Monmouth.

Some months previous to that event Grand Master Woodruff had granted a dispensation to these same applicants to open a lodge preparatory to their application to the Grand Lodge, but no organization seems to have been effected until the 9th day of December of that year, when the first meeting was held at the private residence of Stoffel Longstreet, at the house now occupied by Edward Fiedler, near the village of Eatontown. The township of Shrewsbury at that time covered a great extent of territory, and embraced what is now included in the townships of Shrewsbury, Eatontown, Ocean and part of Atlantic. As the village of Eatontown was the most important town lying within that scope of territory, and the seat of government, as it were, for that district, the lodge naturally located here for convenience, although the charter makes its location no more definite than in the "township of Shrewsbury." This must account for the appendage of the term



"Shrewsbury" to the name of the lodge, which, now that the reason has ceased, makes it inappropriate that the appendage should any longer continue to be recognized.

The first persons initiated by the lodge were Joseph Brindley and Elisha Laird.

The place of meeting was continued at the residence of Stoffel Longstreet until September, 1817, when the lodge moved to the house of Samuel Harvey. This is the place now owned by F. S. Chanfrau, formerly owned and occupied by Judge Barclay, at the junction of the Eatontown and Sea-Shore turnpike and the Oceanport road. This information was obtained from a respectable old lady, who stated that she remembered the circumstance very well when the men took their suppers there, and Dr. Lewis was the preacher.

After the removal of the lodge-rooms to Samuel Harvey's, the first festival of St. John was celebrated at the residence of Thomas Little, situated on Tinton Falls road, now the property of Amzi C. McLean, Esq., and in the house recently occupied by Daniel Shutts, Esq.

There exists abundant proof that the formation of the lodge and its material prosperity was due in a great measure to Dr. John P. Lewis. He was the leading spirit of it all. His punctual attendance at every meeting, and that, too, while engaged in the practice of his profession, which was extensive and laborious; the great amount of Masonic labor that he performed and Masonic information that he gave; his frequent appearance at the regular and emergent communications of the Grand Lodge, are confirmations strong of industry, zeal and ability. As early as 1816 the lodge, appreciating his services, caused to be entered on the minutes "their warm acknowledgments for his assiduous attentions to the duties of the chair, the propriety of his deportment, and his exertions generally." His labors never ceased, his zeal never abated, and his influence in Masonry was conspicuous up to the hour of his death. About this time his efforts were faithfully aided by such men as Jonathan Morris, Alexander McGregor, Samuel Harvey, Thomas Little, Tucker Cook, Stoffel Longstreet, Joseph McKnight, Joseph Brinley and others.

In 1821 the membership had increased to such an extent that measures were taken looking to-

wards the erection of a Masonic Hall in the village of Eatontown. The movement assumed shape in July, 1821, when John P. Lewis submitted plans for the building, and himself, Jacob Knott and Jonathan Holmes were appointed a committee to superintend the building of the hall, agreeably to the plan proposed.

The building was erected by voluntary contributions of labor by members of the lodge, and the materials were furnished in the same way. Each member furnished what he could, most conveniently. A few, who could render no service nor supply any building material, contributed money. Those who were in arrears for lodge dues had credited to their account whatever of labor or material they had furnished. Thus the work went on and the building was completed in 1822.

On the 28th day of September of that year, at the hour of five in the afternoon, twenty-five members and visitors, having first assembled at the house of Samuel Harvey, marched in procession to their new hall to perform the ceremonies of a formal dedication of the edifice to Masonic use and purposes.

The land upon which the hall stands was donated by John P. Lewis. Subsequently he gave the lodge a free and absolute title to the premises; the only restriction rests upon the disposition of the money, provided it is ever sold. It is provided that the money arising from the sale shall be divided among the members in good standing at the time, but shall not be used to build any other lodge-room outside of the village of Eatontown.

The building remained in its original form and structure until 1866, when, in order to keep pace with the steady march of improvement in the community, and to better accommodate the necessities of the order, it was renovated and remodeled under the supervision of Past Master George W. Brown. It is now a neat, substantial, two-story frame building, containing a large and commodious assembly-room, connected with a suitable reception-room and all other appropriate apartments, and comfortably furnished. It is a valuable property, an ornament to the town, and a credit to the fraternity. There is not a cloud upon the title, and not one dollar of debt resting upon it. The lower floor is used as a private school, and yields a revenue to the lodge. Formerly, as there were no





churches in the village, it was used by various denominations for the purposes of religious worship. Mizpah Lodge, I. O. of O. F., are permitted to hold their meetings in the assembly-rooms, but by a resolution no other organization, secular or religious, can meet within its doors.

About the year 1826 began the anti-Masonic movement in this country, which raged with excitement for a number of years. The excitement spread from State to State. Efforts were made to incorporate it into the Presidential question. Active members of a lodge were marked men in a community. It was unpopular, and in some localities unsafe, to be a Mason. In this community the excitement ran high, and the controversy became bitter. At this period the lodge began to experience those difficulties that came so near destroying its existence. The number of candidates for admission diminished. The resources of the lodge were so crippled by the non-payment of dues that the greatest difficulty was experienced in raising funds to pay the necessary expenses. The arrears of dues to the Grand Lodge increased every year. Representations to the Grand Lodge became less frequent, and ceased altogether in 1831. The last representatives to the Grand Lodge were John P. Lewis, Joseph Barclay and James Lloyd, at which time only seven lodges in the State sent representatives. In the year 1834 only four lodges were represented at the Grand Lodge.

Soon Washington Lodge found debts accumulating, with no present means of liquidating them. Finance committees were appointed to devise ways and means, but they found everything on the wrong side of the ledger. A few members met occasionally, but did no work for want of a requisite Masonic number, and at last, in 1833, they ceased to go through the formality of a meeting. From this time no other communication was held by the lodge until December, 1836, when, the term of the officers having expired, a new election was held, resulting in the election of John P. Lewis, W. M.; William W. Croxon, S. W.; Joseph Barclay, J. W.

The lodge convened only three times in 1837. After June in that year the sound of the gavel was not heard in the lodge again until February 11, 1843, when it was attempted to resume work.

In 1842 the eight lodges that had kept up their organizations, and two others, including Washington Lodge, No. 34, were renumbered by the Grand Lodge, and in the distribution this lodge was numbered 9, which number it has ever since retained. Why Washington Lodge, which had been stricken off, should have been included among the working lodges and renumbered can not now be accounted for, there being no record of any application for such proceeding.

This lodge, however, did not attempt to complete its organization and begin work until 1843. In February of that year Grand Master Bowen, of the Grand Lodge, granted a dispensation to John P. Lewis and fourteen others to reopen and resuscitate the lodge. At the regular Grand Lodge communication, in November, 1843, a warrant was granted them.

At this time John P. Lewis, William Croxon and John V. Conover made numerous attempts to open and revive the lodge, but so few attended them, and so little interest seemed to manifest itself among the members, that they began to despair. They were rewarded with some success, however, in 1846. On June 1st of that year, for the first time since 1835, the Washington Lodge opened in due form. At that meeting Dunbar Sansbury made application for membership, was elected, and in due time admitted. From this time on, and without intermission, the lodge held regular communications, and grew in numbers and influence, and maintained its respectability. At this time the date of the regular communications were fixed on the Monday on or before the full moon, and has remained so up to this time. Previous to that time the meetings were held on Saturdays, often as early as three o'clock in the afternoon.

The old lodge, No. 34, having ceased to exist, and a new charter having been granted to certain members of that same lodge for the formation of another lodge, to be known as No. 9, the members generally of No. 34 were not recognized as members of the new, but were readmitted without charge after being balloted for and found to be still worthy. This was the subject of official action in 1844, when a resolution was passed enabling the old members to affiliate with No. 9, under certain conditions, but without expense.



Consequently, a number of the old lodge never affiliated with the new lodge, No. 9, nor with any other; yet they are received and welcomed as visiting brethren, and are almost regarded as members.

Since the reorganization of this lodge a number of other lodges in Monmouth and Ocean Counties have been established, in all cases with the consent and under the patronage of No. 9. Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, of Freehold, was the first that left the parental roof, and established a home and posterity of its own. It was organized in 1848, and now few lodges in the State can boast of as much intelligence, respectability and solid Masonic material. Harmony Lodge, of Tom's River, Ocean County, was organized the same year by members of Washington, No. 9. Next in order comes Navesink, of Red Bank, afterwards changed to Mystic Brotherhood, on account of some confusion arising from another secret organization in the same place bearing the same name. This is an offspring from No. 9.

In 1865 some of the members living in and about Squan village obtained permission to apply for a charter, which they did, and Wall Lodge was established, and grew to a position second to none in influence and proficiency. Long Branch Lodge made its *debut* in 1870, the consent of Washington, No. 9, having been first had and obtained. Asbury Park Lodge was instituted in 1875, and although not one of the original children of No. 9, she certainly bears the relation of grandchild, being an offspring of Long Branch Lodge.

John P. Lewis was elected Grand Master in the State in 1848, and continued to occupy that position during the succeeding year. From 1843 to the date of his voluntary retirement from the East, in 1849, he occupied a responsible position in the Grand Lodge. He was Grand Senior Warden during 1843 and 1844. During the years 1845 and 1846 he was Deputy Grand Master. Henry Finch received the appointment of Grand Chaplain in 1847, and continued to officiate up to and including the year 1852.

William W. Croxson filled the office of Grand Junior Deacon in 1847. Jacob W. Morris was elected Senior Grand Warden in 1852, and held the position three years. George A. Tator was appointed Grand Steward in 1857, and held it one

year. Daniel A. Holmes received the appointment of Grand Steward in 1862. In 1877, William H. Bennett was called to the position of Junior Grand Steward.

James H. Patterson was elected to fill the position of Junior Grand Warden in 1870.

Following is a list of Worshipful Masters of the lodge from its formation to the present time: John P. Lewis, 1815; Alexander McGregor, 1820; John P. Lewis, 1821; Joseph Barclay, 1826; John P. Lewis, 1827, 1833, 1836, 1843; William W. Croxson, 1846; William Hanaford, 1847; Harry Finch, 1848; Robert Laird, 1849; Jacob W. Morris, 1850; John P. Lewis, 1852; George A. Tator, 1853; Francis Corlies, 1856; Daniel A. Holmes, 1857; A. Wilson, 1859; Daniel A. Holmes, 1860; George W. Brown, 1861; Thomas G. Chattle, 1863; Thomas Cook, 1866; William H. Bennett, 1869; William H. Horner, 1871; William H. Bennett, 1872; I. S. Lane, 1873; Henry G. Clayton, 1874; Arthur Wilsor, 1875; Augustus Thomas, 1877; Isaiah S. Lane, 1878 to 1884.

The Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company was incorporated February 27, 1838, under an act of Legislature which provides and declares: "That George A. Corlies, Gabriel West, Edmund West, John P. Lewis, Henry W. Wolcott, Thomas Thomas, Joseph E. White, Esek T. White and others, their associates, successors and assigns, shall be and are hereby ordained, constituted and declared to be a body corporate and politic, in fact and in name, by the name of 'The Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company;' the office thereof to be located in the township of Shrewsbury." The following were mentioned in the act as directors: George A. Corlies, Edmund W. Allen, Gabriel West, John P. Lewis, John P. Corlies, Edmund West, Joseph E. White, George A. White, Jacob Dennis, Tunis Vanderveer and Thomas Thomas.

At the first meeting of the directors, Joseph E. White was elected president, Edmund T. Williams secretary, and Benjamin C. White treasurer. Of these officers, the president, Mr. Joseph E. White was succeeded by Joseph Barclay, Henry Corlies, and David F. Wolcott. The latter, having been elected in January, 1879, is the present pres-





ident. Edmund T. Williams is still the secretary. Benjamin C. White was treasurer until 1866, when he was succeeded by David F. Wolcott, who served until 1873, when W. R. Stevens, the present treasurer, was elected.

The business of the company began May 12, 1838, at the house of Richard Snediker, at Eatontown. It has been uniformly successful. The premiums have paid all the losses in the forty-six years of its existence. Every policy-holder gives a bond, which is liable to assessment, but not a bond has been taxed, and dividends were declared in 1867, 1871, 1876 and 1881. January 1, 1845, the company reported that they had effected insurance to the amount of \$629,742.32. In 1877 the company had \$2,174,601.66 in outstanding risks, which represented fourteen hundred and three policy-holders. In 1883 the risks were \$1,867,707, which represented thirteen hundred and fifty-nine policy-holders.

On March 17, 1852, a supplement to the act of 1838 was passed, which provided that the office of the company be permanently located at Eatontown.

The present officers are: President, David F. Wolcott; Secretary, Edmund T. Williams; and Treasurer, W. R. Stevens. Directors: David F. Wolcott, Edmund T. Williams; Joseph A. LaFetra, Benjamin W. Spinning, Arthur Wilson, John E. Johnson (deceased), John Statesir, Pierson Hendrickson, William H. Slocum, David F. Wolcott, Henry Corlies and W. R. Stevens. Loan manager, Joseph Barclay.

The Perseverance Fire Company of Eatontown was formed June 15, 1881, chiefly in consequence of the feeling of insecurity which was awakened among the citizens by a disastrous fire which had then recently occurred in the village, at which time it was without means of protection, except such as were furnished by the unwieldy hook-and-ladder apparatus of the Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Company. Soon after the organization of the Perseverance Company a second fire occurred, which aroused the people anew to a sense of danger. On the 5th of August in the same year the Perseverance Company was incorporated with twenty-two corporators, and purchase was made of a steam fire-engine and hose-carriage which had been used by the Delaware Fire Company, of Trenton, N. J., and which

arrived at Eatontown in the latter part of August in the year named. It is a "Button" machine, manufactured at Waterford, N. Y., and is thought by members of the company to be one of the best in the county. James Steen is the chief engineer, having held the office from the organization to the present time. The first foreman of the company was S. S. Stout; present foreman, Frank Bennett.

The Eatontown Manufacturing Company was organized in 1854 by about twenty citizens of Eatontown, and in March in that year they erected a large building near the intersection of the Shrewsbury and Tinton Falls roads. The object of the company was to manufacture wall-paper. Among those interested in the enterprise were Dr. John P. Lewis, E. A. Fay, Gabriel West, Robert Wardell, Joseph E. White, Benjamin C. White, Thomas Curtis and John C. Edwards. The buildings were completed and manufacturing began and continued for a few years, but was not successful, and the buildings and machinery, and finally the land, were sold.

The Eatontown Hat-Factory was built in 1875. In the preceding winter Dr. Pierce came to Eatontown and succeeded in gaining the confidence of some of the citizens, and at his suggestion a considerable amount was subscribed to erect a factory, which was done, and the business of manufacturing hats was commenced. It was not successful, and soon after discontinued. The building was rented to W. L. McDonald, who manufactured carriages for a time. It was then unoccupied until November, 1880, when it was rented by W. B. Huey & Co., who operated it as a hat-factory until it was destroyed by fire, November 5, 1881.

The Felt Hat Manufactory of Eatontown was started by W. B. Huey & Co., before mentioned. The firm was composed of W. B. Huey and William G. Harsin, who had been manufacturing in Newark. In November, 1880, they rented the old Eatontown Hat Factory, west of the railroad, and fitted it up for their purposes, and began business December 1st, with about forty employes, and continued there until the building was destroyed by fire, November 5, 1881. A few of the citizens, desirous of keeping up manufacturing in Eatontown, organized a Building and Improvement Company, and erected the present factory near the railroad.



which they rented to W. B. Huey & Co. to continue their work. The machinery was put in by Huey & Co., who now are operating with about one hundred and ten employ  s; to whom two thousand five hundred dollars monthly is paid. The annual production is about fifteen thousand dozen; value, one hundred and forty thousand dollars.

THE EATONTOWN SEMINARY was a private school which was taught, a few years succeeding 1844, in the large building which is now occupied as the Branch Home of the Friendless, situated about a mile eastward from Eatontown, on the road to Long Branch.

In the year above mentioned, Dr. John P. Lewis, with others, made an effort to establish a High School in this vicinity. Professor Cyrenius Jones, a popular teacher from Binghamton, N. Y., became interested with them; a site was selected, with ample grounds, on an elevation one mile east of Eatontown. Mr. Jones took all the responsibility, as he wished to erect a building according to his own original plan. The lumber, of the best quality, and mechanics came from Binghamton. The main building was sixty feet by forty, four stories high, surmounted by a large observatory with eight windows and four doors, which was for the classes in astronomy. The interior of the house was a hollow square, with rooms for students on all sides in each story; also three galleries and balustrades, with steps all landing on the platform near the desk of the principal, from which the numbers on seventy-five rooms could be seen; the hollow square was lighted by a skylight. It was a rule in school hours that but one scholar should occupy a room, and to be called, when wanted, by his number.

There was also a wing, sixty feet by thirty, three stories high, in which was the female department, a large laboratory, dining-room, kitchen, parlors, etc. There was a cellar under the whole of the main building, eleven feet high, for a play-room, with plenty of windows. The total cost of the house was nine thousand dollars.

The principal, Mr. Jones, with three assistant teachers, moved his school from Binghamton, with a large addition, and opened with eighty boarders; he had also a number of day scholars and the good wishes of the community. The school enjoyed

prosperity for about two years, when adversity came. Mr. Jones gave most of his attention to instruction. He was a thorough teacher, but very poor financier. A relative of his was appointed steward, and he had also the whole charge of the financial department. Each boarder was required to pay one hundred dollars on entering the school. But while the building was full of scholars, indebtedness accumulated. The mortgage on the property remained unpaid, creditors came with bills for settlement; but there was no money to be found in the hands of the treasurer, and Mr. Jones was unable to meet the numerous demands or to furnish security for their payment. The result was that the creditors took the property; the school was closed in disaster. Mr. Jones, the principal, became discouraged, went among his relatives in New York State, and soon died. The steward left, and in a short time opened a large flour and feed-store in West Street, New York City.

The property of the seminary was purchased by B. C. White, but he found it unprofitable and disposed of it. In the year 1850, H. F. Spaulding became owner, changed the name to Ocean Institute and opened a day-school, which was well patronized. The building was also used for public entertainments, lyceums, lectures, concerts and exhibitions, for which it was admirably calculated. Among the leading speakers in the Lyceum were E. T. Welch, Jacob C. Lawrence, Enoch Pitcher, Esceck Wolcott, Charles Brooks and H. F. Spaulding. The Lyceum had many friends, and always had a full audience.

In the fall of 1852, C. & N. Cothran, two brothers, both graduates of Bowdoin College, Maine, bought the property for the purpose of opening a first-class school to prepare boys for college and business. They made extensive alterations with the interior of the building. Their school was well patronized both by scholars at home and from abroad. It continued in great favor until they determined on a change, and sold to a company,—viz.: Isaac Walton, James B. Wright and Howard Wright,—who continued improvements on the premises, changed the name to Dunbarton House, and rented it for a summer hotel. After a few years Mrs. Margaret Downs bought the property for fifteen thousand dollars, spent five thousand dollars more in erecting an





extension to the main building, and opened a first-class hotel.

Finally, in the year 1875, the property came into the hands of Mr. John Dunbar Wright, a wealthy, benevolent and leading man in the Friends' Meeting, New York, and president of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, who made it a free gift to the American Female Guardian Society of New York; also to be a summer home for the society for friendless and cruelly-treated children.

THE AMERICAN FEMALE GUARDIAN SOCIETY had its origin in New York in 1834, and not one of the original members are now living. It was the result of a revival of religion. A few earnest workers gathered in consultation and worked in harmony for a time in helping the poor, the sick and the needy. As they labored, a wider field opened before them; differences of opinion with regard to management came up in their council, which resulted in the organization of several different societies, each having a special field and each working in its own way. This society grew into importance and influence with years and has accomplished a great work.

The first building used for the Home of the Friendless was a rented house on the corner of Second Avenue and First Street, New York. It was occupied from July, 1847, to December, 1849. Lots were selected on Thirtieth Street, between Fourth and Madison Avenues, and on May 5, 1849, the corner-stone was laid of a building which was completed and dedicated December 13th in that year. Since that time others have been added, as occasion demanded.

In 1875 (as before mentioned) John D. Wright donated to the American Female Guardian Society the property formerly of the Eatontown Seminary, embracing four acres of land and the large and commodious building which had been occupied by that and the later schools of Spaulding and the Cothran Brothers, to be used as a Branch Home for Friendless Children, under the auspices and control of the Female Guardian Society. It was immediately devoted to that purpose, and has been so used and occupied, summer and winter, from that time to the present. In 1882 a chapel was erected on the grounds, and is named the Bennett Memorial, in honor of Mrs. S. R. I. Bennett, who

was a member of the society from 1835, and an active worker to the time of her death, in April, 1852. One thousand dollars was donated for this purpose by Roswell Smith of *The Century*, five hundred dollars from Mrs. Bennett, and the same amount from another friend of the society. The chapel is also used as a school-room. The matron in charge of the Branch Home in Eatontown is Mrs. M. Hartaugh. The physician in charge is Dr. W. S. Kimball. The president of the society is Mrs. Charles C. North.

BRANCHBURG is a village in the southeast part of Eatontown township. The first settler at this place was Alexander McGregor, who, about 1807, purchased a small tract of land and erected a dwelling, in part of which he opened a store. He donated a lot (about 1809) for school and church purposes, and on which a school-house and church were soon after built. He continued at this place until 1834, when he sold to John Hopper, and the place became known as Hoppertown. A few dwellings were built around the store, church and school-house, and the place also took the name of Mechanicsville.

"THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH at Long Branch," notwithstanding its name and title, is located in Eatontown township, at Branchburg.

Methodist preaching began to be had in Monmouth County as early as 1785, in which year the Rev. Francis Asbury passed through this region on a preaching tour. He did the same occasionally for many years afterwards, and his journal of those tours contains the following extracts having reference to Methodist worship in the east part of the county:

"Monday, September 5th, 1791.—I rode through much rain to Monmouth, N. J. [Freehold], where I preached to a considerable congregation on 'The just shall live by faith; but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.' There is some stir among the people; at Long Branch, within eighteen months, as I am informed, nearly fifty souls have professed conversion.

"October 28th, 1795.—We came to Monmouth; we would have gone to Shrewsbury, but time and our horses failed us. I learn that the ancient spirit of faith is taking place below. We rode twenty miles to Enley's church, where the great revival of religion



was some years ago. I felt a little of the old good spirit there still.

"Sunday, September, 30th, 1809.—At Long Branch my subject was Acts 3-26. It was given me to speak in strong words, words of God and from God. At three o'clock I preached in the Episcopal church, at Shrewsbury. I came home with John Throckmorton."

This last-mentioned service was held in the old Free Church, the new one at what is now Branchburg not being then completed.

In the year 1790 the Rev. Zenas Conger came to this people, and by his turbulent spirit created a division among them, by reason of which the Methodist Independent Church came into existence.

About 1790 a meeting-house was built on the road between Ocean Mills and Branchburg, in which all denominations worshiped. Peter Parker, of Long Branch, says he heard Bishop Asbury preach in this church. In March, 1809, the church was incorporated as the Methodist Episcopal Church at Long Branch, with the following-named trustees: Elihu Chadwick, Joseph Parker, John Martin, Peter Slocum, John Lippincott and Michael Maps. They accepted the lot offered by Alexander McGregor, at what is now Branchburg, and in that year erected the present Methodist Church.

At that time Joseph Totten was the presiding elder. Samuel Budd was the preacher in charge in 1808-9. Under the presiding elder at this time there was a camp-meeting held in Brewer's Woods, at Squankum, at which there was a great revival. This meeting was attended by members in Freehold Circuit, which embraced the territory from Trenton to the sea-shore. The spirit of the revival extended through its bounds, and many were added to the churches. The new church was a two-story structure, the second story of which was for a time only to be reached by means of a ladder. The seats were of rough boards. The church was enlarged in 1843. It was remodeled in 1856, and dedicated July 20th in that year.

Joseph Totten succeeded Budd as preacher. The first Quarterly Meeting was held in the church before it was finished, in the year 1810. After Totten's sermon was finished the presiding elder, Michael Coates, called on him to close, but he took

a text and preached another sermon. The girls of the neighborhood, by picking berries, were enabled to dress very well, and Mr. Totten preached a sermon against it, which annoyed the young men, and they resolved to give him a whipping when he came outside. Totten learned of this, and taking his whip, he stepped outside and cracked it, challenging them by his manner to the conflict, but his stalwart form and determined air intimidated them, and he was not molested.

Totten was succeeded by the Rev. William Mills, of which the following account is by the Rev. George A. Raybold, author of "Methodism in New Jersey:—"

"Mr. Mills was a native of Monmouth, of Quaker descent. The fire of patriotic feeling induced him, Quaker as he was, in 1776, to enter the American army, in which he became an officer. He was taken prisoner by the British, and was sent, after being changed from one vessel to another, to the West Indies. At length he was carried to Europe, from whence, at the close of the war, he returned home and again settled in New Jersey. About the year 1792 the Methodist preachers came into the region of country where he resided. His wife solicited him to hear them; but he resisted, stating his belief that he had been so wicked his day of grace was past. By a remarkable dream he was at length convinced that there was mercy for him. He then attended the means of grace, until, as he sought the Lord with all his heart, he soon found mercy and peace through faith in Jesus. He became a member of the first class formed in the vicinity of Shrewsbury, in Monmouth. Soon after he found the Lord he began to exhort others, and was appointed class-leader, and in the spring of 1799 he was received into the traveling connection. His labors as an itinerant began on Milford Circuit, Delaware, from whence he was sent to various places and finally returned to Jersey. In 1813 he was sent to Freehold, the place of his nativity and the first field of his Christian efforts. The soldier who had faced death at the cannon's mouth on the land and on the sea, now, as his end approached in reality, felt no fear. He had a presentiment of his death, and told his wife that 'death seemed to follow him everywhere.' His zeal for God and labors for the salvation of souls increased. The last time he left home he gave his wife sundry directions and advices in case he should die. He started as well as usual, and filled all his appointments, preaching most fervently until a short time before his death. On the 4th of December he left Long Branch, met class, and then returned to Mr. Lippencott's, at the Branch. On Sunday morning he went into a room in Mr. Lippencott's to prepare for the service in the church, which





was to commence at half-past ten o'clock. The congregation was then collecting, and the family, thinking he stayed too long in the chamber, sent in to know the cause, and found him fallen into a fit of apoplexy, almost deprived of sense. After a time he revived a little, and on being asked if they should send for medical aid, he replied, 'The Lord is the best physician.' At about twelve o'clock the stupor and other unfavorable symptoms returned. He lingered until about six the next morning, and then peacefully departed for a world of rest. Thus suddenly fell into the arms of death another faithful minister of the gospel; a zealous, faithful and acceptable preacher; an Israelite, indeed, in whom there was no guile. Long, however, has he lived in the affectionate remembrance of the people of West Jersey, who knew him well.

"In the year 1812, the year previous to Mr. Mills being sent to preach in Freehold Circuit, the number of members embraced in the charge was seven hundred and thirty-six."

The ministers who followed those mentioned above, for several years, were David Bartine, John Woolson, William Smith, James Moore, Charles Pitman, 1831; Thomas Stewart, 1832; John K. Shaw, 1835; J. L. Lenhart, 1836; J. H. Dandy, 1838; R. E. Morrison, 1840; — Ayers, 1842.

In January, 1843, a great revival sprang up in this section, by which, on the 22d of January in that year, one hundred and ten members were added to the church. The preachers from 1859 have been Francis A. Morrell, 1859-60; E. Green, 1861-62; W. Franklin, 1865-66; S. F. Wheeler, 1869-70; G. Reed, 1874-75; W. E. Boyle, 1876-77; W. Chamberlain, 1878-79; R. J. Andrews, 1880-81; W. S. Barnart, 1882-84.

THE INDEPENDENT METHODISTS of the vicinity of Branchburg worshiped in a church edifice that stood south of the village, on the road to Oceanville.

About the year 1790, Zenas Conger came to the Methodists in this section and began labor as pastor. He was somewhat irregular in his habits, and complaints were made against him. Many of the congregation sympathized with him, and instead of waiting for a trial on the charges brought against him, he gathered his adherents about him and established another church, which he styled the Methodist Independents, but by others was called Congerites. From his habits he was unable to command the respect of the people, and many of the meetings were quite disorderly. The people in this section, being largely of Quaker descent, disapproved of a

hireling ministry, and were willing to hear local preachers and exhorters. The movement spread and good men joined it, and such men as Matthias Barkalow, of Blue Ball, J. Saplin Newman, of Shark River, Ralph Thomson, of Long Branch, and others became local preachers.

Zenas Conger, with others, established churches in other parts of the county about 1809. One was at Colt's Neck, where a church building was erected. Near where "Our House" tavern now stands a lot was purchased and a house commenced, but not finished. A lot was purchased at what is now Hopeville, in October, 1813, and a church erected. On January 23, 1813, the members of the society at this place (Branchburg) were incorporated and elected the following trustees: Stephen Cook, Richard Taber, James Edwards, Ralph Thomson, Thomas Brown, Abram Lane and John Emmons. The old Free Church, built about 1790, between Ocean Mills and what is now Branchburg, was used by them and the property was deeded to them. The local preachers mentioned above, served the people many years. The lot was used as a cemetery, and the society having become weak and the house unused, it was sold by Stephen Cook in 1846, he being the sole surviving trustee. It was then moved across the street, where the frame was used in a barn.

In 1850 all the Independent Methodist societies in the county were merged into the Methodist Protestant Church, and the different church properties deeded to them.

TURTLE MILL is situated on a small stream which is one of the head-waters of Pleasure Bay, and is also on the road from Eatontown to Long Branch. At this place a mill was in operation as early as 1730. In 1775 it was owned by John Williams, who died before the close of the Revolution. He was an adherent of the British, and his estate was confiscated and sold. It was bought in by his widow, Deborah Williams, who kept it many years. She sold one-quarter interest to William Slocum, a miller, who attended to the mill. A portion was afterwards sold to John West, and the remainder to John Williams, a son. About 1824 it passed to Stephen Blades, and later to Jacob W. Morris, and is now owned by William Hendrickson. It was known as Slocum's Mill for many years.



In the early part of the Revolution, while this mill was in the possession of John Williams, Thomas Barclay (son-in-law of Williams, and father of Judge Joseph Barclay, now of Eatontown), belonging to the light-horse, was at home on a furlough, and while starting out from the mill to mount his horse, heard a rustling in the bushes, and stooped low, when several bullets passed over his head, through the open door and lodged in a post in the mill, where the holes are still to be seen. The firing was by a party of Tory Refugees.

OCEANPORT is a village located in Eatontown township, east of Monmouth Park and at the head of South Shrewsbury River. The population in 1839 was forty-seven, and in 1879 four hundred. The land on which this village is located was in 1760 the property of the Edwards family, and later, portions of it passed to the Pemberton, Corlies and Fields families. The old Edwards family mansion stood on a lot now owned by E. T. Welch, near Monmouth Park. In 1820 the point was known as Peggy's Point, and at the time was owned by Margaret Edwards. It was at the head of navigation of South Shrewsbury River. For some years prior to 1820 it began to be used as a depot for storing charcoal, which was burned in the lower townships of Monmouth County and from thence shipped to New York. The first vessel that began to ply regularly from here was the sloop "Sowbug," owned by Pontus Chandler.

The first store of Oceanport was opened by Henry W. Wolcott and John P. Corlies, in 1833. They also carried on a lumber business. Their store building was destroyed by fire in 1865, it being then the property of Jacob W. Woolley. Soon after this store was started by Wolcott & Corlies the place became known as Eatontown Dock.

On the 2d of February, 1844, an act was passed incorporating the Eatontown Steamboat Company, with a capital of thirty thousand dollars. This act recites that in April, 1843, a company was formed and a steamboat built, which was then running. The corporators were John P. Lewis, Ethan A. Fay, George A. Corlies, Edwin Lewis, William Kelly, John Howland, Benjamin Wooley, Deborah and Leah Parker, Robert C. White,

John P. Corlies, Cornelius P. Hulick, Peter Casler, Joseph H. Woolley, John T. Phillips, James Mount and John D. Hurley.

Docks and wharves were built and the steamboat "Edwin Lewis" ran regularly to New York. Streets were laid out, corner-lots ran up to fabulous prices and many dwellings were erected. Drummond, Wolcott & Co. soon built a store building opposite Griscom's store, and opened also a lumber-yard. Augustus Lewis opened a store where the store of William R. Haynes now stands.

The building of the dock and steamboat and the opening of a route to New York brought trade to this port, and the little steamer "Edwin Lewis," with Captain William Haynes as commander, was taxed to its utmost. James S. Allaire, of the Allaire Iron-Works, in Howell township, erected a large stone building, fifty feet square, four stories in height, where George H. Maps now lives, in which were stored pots, kettles and all kinds of ironware from the works. Another steamboat was added, and fifteen or twenty sailing-vessels were used to carry the freight that was brought in here from all sections. Teams were often waiting in line from the dock to the residence of William M. Longstreet.

On March 5, 1855, the Oceanport Steamboat Company was incorporated with an authorized capital of one hundred thousand dollars. The corporators were Peter Casler, Samuel S. Wyckoff and Jacob C. Lawrence. After much difficulty twenty thousand dollars was subscribed, and the steamboat "James Christopher" was built, and began running in the season of 1855, and continued until 1858, when it was taken to Red Bank.

The railroad was finished through here in 1861, and from that time Oceanport began to decline from the large business which for several years had been done. In 1854 the business firms of the place were Haynes & Drummond, lumber, brick and coal; Thomas T. Williams, lumber and coal; Haynes & Wolcott, Williams & Lawrence and C. N. Golden, general stores; J. C. Lawrence, clothing-store; E. T. Welch, stoves and tinware; C. T. Fleming, boots and shoes. The schooners running from this port were the "B. Drummond," "Ann Davison," "Enterprise," "Four Sisters," "Agno" and "Old Jackson;"





and the sloops, "Almira Shepherd," "Splendid," "Merchant" and "Emeline."

About 1839 an old house, where the John Pemberton house now stands, was opened as a hotel and kept first by Morris Longstreet, later by Joseph Kirby. In 1846 Deborah and Leah Parker built the present hotel, now owned and occupied by D. W. White and W. Doig. An old school house was used until 1870, when the district was merged into the present one and the children now attend the Wolf Hill school.

In 1849 a post-office was established here and Dr. John P. Lewis was appointed postmaster with William Haynes as deputy. He was appointed postmaster in 1864, and served until his death, in 1874. His son, William R. Haynes, served as deputy postmaster until 1876, when Zadock M. Briggs succeeded and served until Mareh, 1883. Edwin Corlies was then appointed and is now postmaster. The office is in Griscom's store.

**THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH** edifice was built in Oceanport in 1868. The congregation was under charge of Eatontown for several years, and later, under the Little Silver Church. Since 1870 the pastors who have served are as follows: W. F. Abbott, 1870; F. F. Mundy, 1874; L. M. Atkinson, 1875; S. F. Gaskell, 1876-77; T. D. Sleeper, 1878-80; W. H. Pearne, 1881-82; T. S. Wilson, 1883-84. The church has at present about fifty members.

Mizpah Lodge, No. 61, I. O. of O. F., was instituted at Eatontown many years ago. It was active for a short time and was then dormant for twelve years. On February 4, 1869, it was revived with five old members and seventeen initiates. In the spring of 1880 it was removed to Oceanport, where it remains. Albert Smith is the present Noble Grand.

**SCHOOLS.**—The township of Eatontown contains five public schools and the Eatontown Academy. The township contains six hundred and thirty-two children of school age, and the public school property is valued at ten thousand four hundred dollars.

Locust Grove District, No. 82, has eighty-five scholars. About the year 1800 a school-house was

on the site of Edmond A. Wolcott's house, about three-quarters of a mile from Eatontown village. William Herbert was a teacher in its early days. The last teacher was Elisha Little. The house was abandoned about 1825. In November, 1846, the school district bought of William Lafetra the present lot and erected a school-house, which was used until 1870, when it was moved off and is now used as a lodge-room by the colored people. In the latter year the present house was erected.

Eatontown District, No. 83, embraces the village of Eatontown. The first school of which anything is known as having existed in or near Eatontown was the Pleasant Hill Academy. It was built in 1806, on a slight elevation a little north of the village (known as Academy Hill), by the Friends of Shrewsbury Meeting. One of the early teachers was Seth Lippincott, who lived there, and, in addition to his day scholars, had some from a distance who boarded at the house. It was abandoned by the Friends before 1825, but was rented to others, who kept the school for many years. Among the teachers since 1829 were Larza Merchant, William Ely and (about 1840) Obadiah Thayer. It was entirely abandoned before 1860. The property now belongs to the estate of Benjamin C. White.

About 1810 a school-house was erected on land now owned by Thomas White, about one-quarter of a mile from the village of Eatontown. Joseph Wardell was a teacher there in early years. It closed about 1825. In 1824 Masonic Hall was erected on the main street in Eatontown, and in the lower part a school was opened. The first teacher was John Kyle. He was succeeded by Obadiah Lang, Charles White and Mrs. James McGregor. In 1841, Jacob Little taught an English and classical school there; later, Miss Reeve, Rev. Dr. A. Ten Broeck and daughters, Miss Hatfield, and at present Professor James M. Clagget. It is known as the Eatontown Academy. Between the years 1825 and 1830 a private school was taught in a small house that stood on the lot where Dr. W. S. Kimball now resides.

Prior to 1836 most of the land north of the main street to the Feidler line was open commons. In that year it was divided into lots and sold at auction. A few years later, about 1846, a school-house (still standing) was erected and used until



the present public school-house was completed, in the spring of 1870, at a cost of three thousand five hundred dollars. The district at present contains two hundred and thirty-five children of school age.

Wolf Hill District, No. 84, embraces Oceanport and a territory south of it, to the east of Monmouth Park. An old one-story frame school-house stood on the present school-lot many years, and in 1869 it was moved to the main street near the railroad, where it is now used as a dwelling. It stood on land donated by Edmond West. The present two-story frame school building was erected in the winter of 1869-70. A school-house was built in Oceanport soon after 1829, and was used until the winter of 1869-70, when the Wolf Hill school-house was built and the districts were consolidated. The district now contains one hundred and seventy-nine children of school age.

Mechanicsville District, No. 86, embraces the village of Branchburg. In this place Alexander McGregor, soon after his settlement in 1807, donated a lot for a school-house and a church. On this lot, about 1810, a school-house was erected, in which Francis Martin was an early teacher. The present school-house is upon a lot about fifty yards northwest from the old house. It is a frame building, two stories in height, and was built in 1869-70. The district now contains one hundred and thirteen children of school age.

Pine Grove District, No. 89, is located in the pines, on the road from Eatontown to Oceanville. The first school-house here was built in about 1856. It is a one-story frame building, about twelve by fourteen feet in size, still in use. The district contains sixty-seven children of school age.

MONMOUTH PARK is situated about a mile east from Eatontown and about three miles westwardly from Long Branch. The grounds are adjoining the track of the Eatontown Branch of the Raritan and Delaware Bay Railroad.

In May, 1878, the Monmouth Park Railroad Association was formed and incorporated to build a railroad one and a half miles in length to connect with the Central Railroad of New Jersey about one hundred feet from where the railroad bridge crosses Parker's Creek. The land on which the park was laid out belonged to the Corlies estate, and in 1866 was bought by Richard R. Hulett,

who, on the 13th of September, 1869, sold one hundred and twenty-eight acres, with dwelling-house, barn and wagon-house, for thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars, to J. McB. Davison and J. F. Chamberlain, who fenced the grounds and laid out a race-track of one mile circuit.

An act was passed March 29, 1865, to encourage agricultural, horticultural and mechanical manufacturing and scientific arts and productions, and for the improvement of blooded stock in this and other States. Under this act the company was incorporated. Its incorporators were Charles Haight, Henry S. Little, William D. Davis, Samuel Laird and Francis Corlies. The association was designated the Long Branch and Sea-Shore Improvement Company. Time elapsed and nothing was done, and on February 9, 1870, the incorporation was revived, and Charles S. Lloyd was named as a corporator in place of William D. Davis, deceased.

This association came into possession of the land purchased by Davison and Chamberlain (as above mentioned) and issued stock for the purpose of its improvement, which was carried out by the building of the sheds, out-buildings, stables, grand stands and club-house. The company came to financial embarrassment, and on foreclosure, David D. Withers, of New York, bought the property for the sum of \$57,146.46.

An association was then formed by the name and style of the Monmouth Park Association, who filed a certificate of incorporation May 17, 1878. The property purchased by Mr. Withers was conveyed to this association, who now own the property. Large additions have been made to the grounds and buildings since the purchase by the association.

The capital stock of the association is sixty thousand dollars, which is owned by August Belmont, David D. Withers and Pierre Lorillard, of New York; George Peabody Wetmore, of Newport; and George Lorillard, of Islip, Suffolk County, N. Y., the latter of whom is president of the association.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

**EDMOND WEST.**—Mr. West, who is the oldest living resident of Eatontown township, is the grandson of Joseph West, one of whose nine children was James, born in Monmouth County on the 10th of December, 1731. He married Ann Wing, whose birth occurred August 14, 1729, in Shrewsbury township, the children of this marriage being a son, John, and two daughters. John West was born in 1753, and spent his life in agricultural pursuits on the farm now

He recalls many events of interest in his youth, notably the death of General Washington, which occurred when he was a mere lad. Mr. West enjoyed no opportunities for a thorough education, the War of the Revolution having deranged the school system and occasioned the recall to England of most of the clergymen of the Episcopal Church and others engaged in teaching. He assisted in the cultivation of the farm, and subsequently embarked in mercantile ventures, but not finding these pursuits congenial to his tastes, re-



*Edmond West*

owned by his son Edmond, where his death occurred on the 14th of March, 1829, in his seventy-sixth year. He married Meribah, daughter of John Sloeum, of Monmouth County, and had children,—James, Elisha, Joseph, Edmond, Gabriel, John H., Revoc, Rebecca (Mrs. Thomas Morford) and Ann (Mrs. John A. Taylor). Edmond West was born on the 9th of March, 1791, on the homestead where, with the exception of a brief interval of three months when a soldier in the War of 1812, his whole life has been spent.

sumed his farming employments. The land which came to him by inheritance from his father embraced marl-beds, which rendered the soil productive and materially increased the profits accruing from the year's labor. Mr. West was married to Rachel, daughter of John Drummond, of the same township, a descendant of Lord Drummond, one of the proprietors of East Jersey. Her death occurred on the 23d of September, 1880. Mr. West has been during his lifetime a firm and consistent Democrat, but has never held official



position with the exception of a service of thirteen years as surveyor of highways. He is a member and senior warden of St. James' Protestant Episcopal Church at Long Branch. Though in his ninety-fifth year, he still enjoys vigorous health and exhibits rare mental acuteness.

WILLIAM HENRY SLOCUM, the son of Webley and grandson of Samuel Slocum, was born in New York City the 10th of June, 1813. His mother, Jemima Turnier, was of Huguenot and Dutch extraction. His great-grandfather Turnier was a Presbyterian clergyman in Paris, and fled to America to save his life at the time of the Robespierre Revolution. He received his early education in the Warren and Union Hall Academies of the city of New York. For two years, from the spring of 1828, he was engaged as clerk with Messrs. Maintain & Thorne, at the corner of South and Beekman Streets, and then became a partner with his brother, John W., in the retail grocery business, at the corner of Division and Attorney Streets, New York. That business becoming distasteful, he sold his interest to his brother and apprenticed himself to Andrew Turnbull to learn the trade of carpenter and builder. At the age of seventeen years he assisted his brother, John W., in the organization, under the New York Fire Department Act, of the Veto Hose Company, No. 4, of which the latter was chosen foreman and he secretary and treasurer. His appearance at this time was that of maturity far beyond his years, and the city authorities issued to him a fireman's certificate without a question as to his age.

On the advent of cholera in New York, in the year 1832, Judge Slocum removed to Long Branch, N. J., the home of his ancestors, and married, on the 17th of July, 1834, Mary Slocum, who was born August 16, 1816, daughter of Peter and Abigail Slocum. He has had three children, viz.: Walter L., Mary Melissa and Fannie A. Walter L. is married and resides with him; Fannie A. is a widow living in Camden, N. J.; Mary Melissa is deceased. Mrs. Slocum died July, 1883. The next ten years of his life were passed in building, farming and school-teaching. In the autumn of 1841 he was nominated by the Monmouth County Democratic Convention as representative to the New Jersey Legislature, without his knowledge or

consent, which honor he respectfully declined, notwithstanding the certainty of his election, as the county was largely Democratic. The same nomination was again tendered him a few years afterwards and again declined. Although a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, he did not desire to become a politician, knowing that such a course would necessarily take him into associations not congenial to his nature. But while refusing higher offices, he exhibited a very commendable spirit, in accepting various neighborhood and township offices, to which his neighbors repeatedly elected him from early manhood until 1868, since which date he has declined to serve. In the year 1844 the New Jersey Legislature appointed him one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Monmouth County. The same year he was deputed as an officer of United States customs and served three years in that capacity. By rendering timely assistance in discharging cargo to lighten ships, sometimes in the night and in severe storms, valuable stranded vessels, with their cargoes, have been saved from destruction along the New Jersey coast. In the year 1848 he connected himself with the late Captain James Green, of Long Branch, in the hotel business, and continued thus occupied for nineteen summers. The hotel was only kept open in the summer season and was widely known as the Bath Hotel, the oldest, at that time, on the sea-shore at the Branch. It was wholly destroyed by fire in the spring of 1867. During his connection with this hotel Judge Slocum became acquainted in a business way with a number of men prominent in the State and nation, with several of whom the acquaintance ripened into intimacy.

In the year 1856 he was appointed a Master in Chancery for life by Chancellor Williamson, of New Jersey.

In the year 1857 he was elected judge of election, which office he held for seven successive years. In the year 1863 he was elected a justice of the peace for five years. In the year 1865 he was appointed a notary public for life by Governor Joel Parker. He has been elected and acted as one of the town committee several times at intervals since 1837. In the year 1866 he was elected inspector of registry and elections and commissioned by Governor Ward.

He took an active part in the organization of



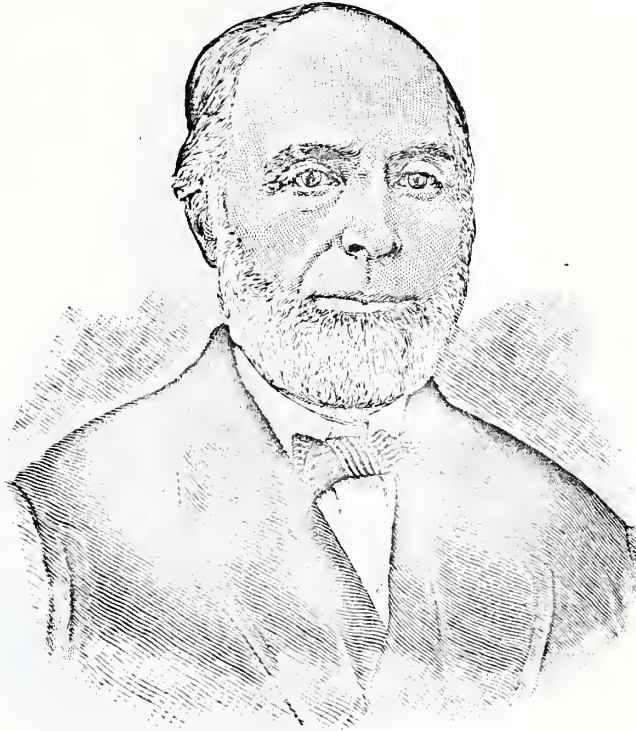


the Eatontown and Sea-Shore Turnpike Company in 1865, and was chosen one of the directors, and for several years served as treasurer, and in 1876 he was elected president of the company, which position he still holds. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Insurance Co., of Eatontown, N. J.

Throughout his life he has taken great interest in the welfare of laboring men. He was the prime mover for the introduction of the ten-hour system

continued until the dissolution of the firm, in 1876. Since this date he has abandoned all business except conveyancing and the settling of estates, which was followed, in connection with other business, since 1844.

His counsel on legal questions has been frequently sought and freely given, and though often tendered a fee for the same, he has always declined receiving it, nor has he ever accepted a fee or commission for aiding others to procure a loan of



*W. H. Locum*

in Monmouth, N. J. which superseded the old plan requiring, during the summer months, work from sunrise to sunset as a day's labor. He has also given considerable attention to schools, and he aided in the organization of the graded system now in successful operation in his neighborhood.

In the year 1868 he connected himself with the firm of William Haynes & Co.,—which was soon succeeded by Drummond, Maps & Co.,—of Oceanport, N. J., lumber dealers, and proprietors of a steam saw and planing-mill, in which connection he

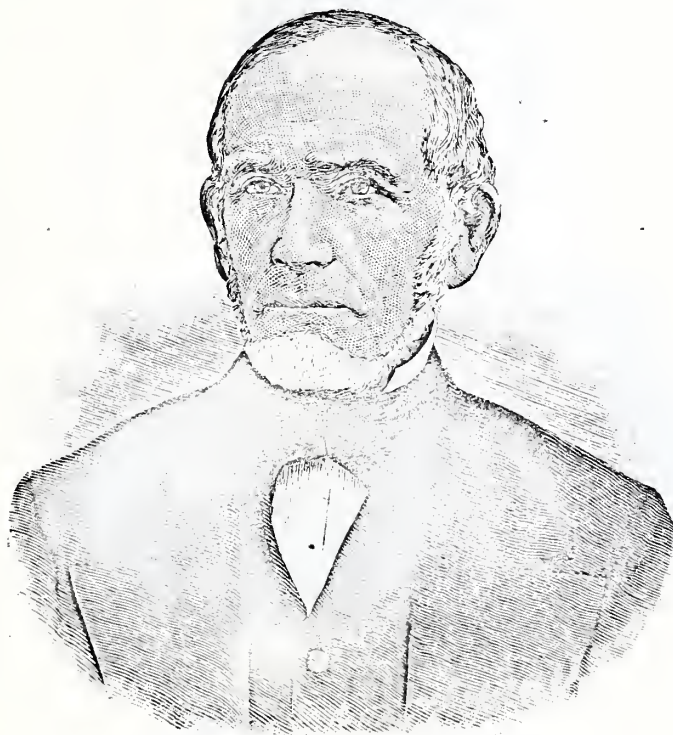
money. In all positions of trust which he has been called upon to fill he has never been asked to give bond or any security for the faithful performance of his duty, and has never failed to render a full and true account. In business he has always been industrious, persevering and economical, which virtues, with his judicious habits and management, have brought him the full score of happiness, for

"Reason's whole pleasure, all the joys of sense,  
Lie in three words—health, peace, and competence."



In the spring of 1844, Judge Slocum removed from Long Branch village—where he had resided since his marriage—to a small farm which he had purchased near Branchburg. In November, 1854, he completed and occupied his present residence, which is pleasantly situated near Wolf Hill, on the turnpike between the villages of Long Branch and Eatontown—one mile and a half from each—and near the village of Oceanport. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Eatontown, and now acts as its treasurer and warden.

He remained with his parents until his marriage, on the 9th of May, 1849, to Eliza, daughter of Yeomans and Sarah Gillingham, of Frankford, Pa., when Oceanport, Monmouth County, became and is still, his residence. Mr. Williams, in the spring of 1844, under the firm-name of J. & T. T. Williams, embarked in mercantile pursuits at Poplar, and continued thus engaged until 1847, when the store and stock was sold to William Cook, and, removing to Oceanport, he entered the firm of B. Drummond & Co., lum-



*Thomas T. Williams*

THOMAS T. WILLIAMS. — The great-grandparents of Mr. Williams were Elihu and Ann Wadey Williams, who were married April, 1750. His grandparents were Israel and Bathsheba Woodmancie Williams, the former of whom was the owner of several plantations, which he distributed among his sons. Daniel Williams, one of these sons, married Mary Tilton, and was the father of Thomas T. Williams, whose birth occurred March 27, 1819, at Poplar, Monmouth County, N. J., where his ancestors for three generations had re-

ber dealers. Retiring from this firm in 1850, he embarked alone in the same business, and in 1857, again changing, invested his capital in a stock of furniture, crockery and general merchandise. In 1863, Samuel W. Griscom was admitted as a partner, under the firm name of Williams & Griscom, and this business association continued until 1882, when the senior partner retired, and has since devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. Mr. Williams has had neither taste nor leisure for affairs of a political or public nature, but has frequently





been called to fill the office of administrator and executor, which duties have been discharged with unerring fidelity. He is a member by birthright of the Society of Friends, and worships with the Shrewsbury Monthly Meeting.

**SAMUEL WILLIAM GRISCOM.**—Mr. Griscom is of Scotch descent, his grandfather, William Griscom, having been a native of Salem County,

lingham, of Philadelphia, whose children are Samuel W., George L., Elwood, Yeamans, Sarah L. (Mrs. Thomas D. Holmes), Nancy S. (Mrs. Reed Nuckles) and Mark Stewart.

Samuel William Griscom was born in Frankford, now included within the corporate limits of Philadelphia, and in youth removed with his parents to Virginia. Receiving there a rudimentary education, he began active life as a merchant's



*S. W. Griscom*

N. J., where he pursued the blacksmith's craft. He married Ann Stewart, whose children are Samuel S., William, John D., David J., George, Charles W. and Mary W. Samuel S., also a native of Salem County, early in life removed to the vicinity of Philadelphia, where he engaged in teaching. On a subsequent migration to Virginia, he became favorably known as a surveyor and conveyancer. Mr. Griscom married Sydney, daughter of Yeamans and Sarah L. Gil-

clerk, remaining thus employed until October 10, 1859, when he removed to his present residence, Oceanport, and entered the store of T. T. Williams. After continuing for several years this business association, he was admitted to a partnership as the owner of a half-interest, and in 1882, on the retirement of Mr. Williams, became sole proprietor of the business, which he still conducts. Mr. Griscom has been and is a prominent Democrat in his political affiliations, and while occa-



sionally a delegate to party conventions, has not sought office nor encouraged the proffer of honors easily within his grasp. He is a member of the Agricultural Society of the county. He still adheres in religion to the belief of the Society of Friends, and worships with the Shrewbury Friends' Meeting.

**CHARLES ANTONIDES.**—The ancestors of Mr. Antonides emigrated at an early day from Hol-

land to the United States, and settled in Monmouth County, N. J. His grandfather, Jacob, was born on the 8th of October, 1780, in New Jersey, and probably in Monmouth County, where he followed the trade of a blacksmith. He married, on the 18th of December, 1800, Miss Elizabeth Sutphen, whose birth occurred October 1, 1781. Their children were John (born in 1801), Abram, Sarah (born in 1807), Archibald (in 1808), Phebe (in 1810), Deborah (in 1812), Eliza (in 1816). Abram Antonides, whose birth occurred on the

19th of October, 1804, in Monmouth County, learned his father's trade, which he continued until his marriage to Miss Lydia, daughter of Reuben Tilton, of the same county. The children of this marriage are Delia Ann, Charles, Mary Elizabeth (wife of Charles Wilson Ten Brook), Ira, Eleanor L. (deceased), Deborah Jane, Emeline (wife of Charles Curtis), William W., Laurah (wife of Lewis Lane) and Stephen S. Charles Antonides was born on the 29th of Sep-



*Chas Antonides*

tember, 1829, in Leedsville, Monmouth County, and removed in youth to a farm purchased by his father from the estate of his maternal grandparent. Here he remained until eighteen years of age, meanwhile receiving instruction in the English branches at the neighboring schools and responding to the demand for his services on the farm. He then determined to render himself independent by the acquirement of a trade, and entered the carriage-shop of Daniel Herbert, of Middletown. Being already very skillful in the handling of

land to the United States, and settled in Monmouth County, N. J. His grandfather, Jacob, was born on the 8th of October, 1780, in New Jersey, and probably in Monmouth County, where he followed the trade of a blacksmith. He married, on the 18th of December, 1800, Miss Elizabeth Sutphen, whose birth occurred October 1, 1781. Their children were John (born in 1801), Abram, Sarah (born in 1807), Archibald (in 1808), Phebe (in 1810), Deborah (in 1812), Eliza (in 1816). Abram Antonides, whose birth occurred on the

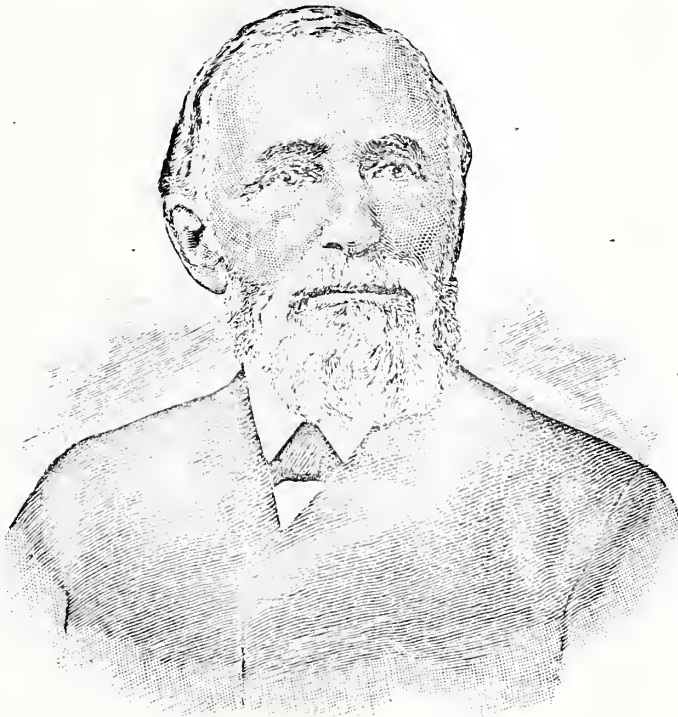




tools, his apprenticeship was completed at the expiration of the second year, after which he spent a year, partly as journeyman, in the same establishment. At the age of twenty-one he removed to Hillsdale, in Marlboro' township, and opened a shop for the prosecution of his trade. Two years later he became a resident of Holmdel, and remained six years engaged in business, when Mechanicsville (now Branchburg) presented a favorable opening, and has since that time been the scene of his successful career as a carriage

his father in manufacturing; and Isaac V. D., deceased. Mrs. Antonides died October 29, 1881, and he was again married, in November, 1882, to Mrs. Lydia A. Brown, daughter of Joseph Thompson, deceased, of Leedsville.

Mr. Antonides is in politics a Prohibitionist, having formerly voted the Republican ticket. He has been a member of the township committee, but accepted no other offices, his attention being chiefly occupied with his own business pursuits. He is a member of Arioch Lodge, No. 77, Inde-



*Henry Corlies*

manufacturer. A large demand was soon established for his wares, light carriages being especially popular with his customers. The increase of business rendered more spacious quarters necessary, as purchasers were not confined to the vicinity, but extended to New York City and its suburbs. Mr. Antonides, therefore, enlarged his shops to keep pace with the increase of business. He was, on the 17th of November, 1853, married to Eleanor H., daughter of Isaac Van Dorn, whose children are Lydia Maria; Adolphus V. D., associated with

pendent Order of Odd-Fellows of Long Branch. He is connected with the Reformed Church at Long Branch village in which he fills the office of deacon.

**HENRY CORLIES.**—Britton Corlies, the grandfather of Henry Corlies, who resided upon the farm now owned by the latter, was born November 27, 1738, and died October 31, 1816. He married Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Woolley, whose children were Ann, Elizabeth,



Britton, Deborah, Britton (second), Joseph W., Jacob W., and Benjamin W. The last named was born February 9, 1797, in Monmouth County, where his death occurred May 24, 1884, in his eighty-eighth year. He married Miriam T., daughter of Tyler and Elizabeth Williams, who was born October 8, 1797. Their children are Henry, Tyler W., Edward, (deceased,) Francis, Sarah (wife of E. A. Osborn), Susan (deceased), and Eliza H. (wife of Dr. Henry Townsend). Henry Corlies was born on the 20th of October, 1821, in Shrews-

Monmouth County, whose death occurred January 18, 1854. He was again married, on the 25th of December, 1856, to Miss Mary, granddaughter of Captain Hendrick Hendrickson, of Revolutionary fame, and daughter of William and Eleanor DuBois Hendrickson, of Middletown, and sister of ex-Senator William H. Hendrickson. Their children are William H. H., born May 16, 1858, who died August 16th of the same year; Charles Du Bois, whose birth occurred August 25, 1859; and Willie H., born June 21, 1862, who died No-



*John P. Basler*

bury (now Eatontown) township. He acquired a thorough English education at the Friends' Boarding-School at Westtown, Chester County, Pa., and later at Wilmington, Del., on the completion of which course of study he returned to his home and engaged in farming employments. In 1852 he purchased a portion of the land owned by the family, and has since been devoted to the varied pursuits of an agriculturalist. Mr. Corlies was, on the 8th of September, 1852, married to Miss Ellen L., daughter of Ruloff Van Derveer, of Poplar,

November 23d of that year. Mr. Corlies has always affiliated with the Whig and Republican parties in politics, and was an advocate of anti-slavery doctrines, but has found little leisure for matters apart from the routine of his daily business. He was formerly president, and is now a director of the Shrewsbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is also a member of the Monmouth County Agricultural Society. Mr. Corlies is descended from Quaker ancestry, and is a birthright member of the Society of Friends, but at present worships





the congregation of the Shrewsbury Presbyterian Church.

**JOHN P. CASLER.**—The grandfather of Mr. Casler, who was of German origin, settled in Monmouth County prior to the War of the Revolution. His son John, who was a popular landlord in Freehold, married a Miss Clayton, of the latter place, and had sons—Peter, John, Robert and George; and daughters,—Hannah (Mrs. Joseph Parker), Re-

Joseph Williams), Edward, Peter, Delia (Mrs. Martin), Aaron and Rufus. Mr. Casler was a second time married, to Eliza Paxton, sister of his first wife, whose children are Sallie (Mrs. Ira Borden) and Harriet (Mrs. Charles Wyckoff). John P. Casler was born on the 21st of February, 1820, in Middlesex County, N. J., and in childhood removed with his parents to Eatontown township, where he received such advantages of education as were obtainable at the common schools of



*Abram G. Metzger*

becca (Mrs. Joseph Van Cleef) and Delia (Mrs. Richard Worthley). Peter, of this number, resided in Eatontown township, where he was a successful farmer, and died in 1883, in his eighty-seventh year. To his first wife, Mary, daughter of John Paxton, of Allentown, Pa., and later of Middlesex County, N. J., were born children,—Joseph, John P., Theodosia (Mrs. Edward Lupton), William C., Margaret (Mrs. William Throckmorton), Robert, Henry, Elizabeth (wife of Dr. John Cook), Emily (Mrs.

the county. He then devoted his energies to farm labor until twenty-two years of age, when a more attractive field presented itself in travel through the West. He finally became a resident of Middlesex County, N. J., and married, in 1844, Miss Elizabeth, daughter of William Rue, of the same county. Their children are Aaron T., Mary Ellen (Mrs. Benjamin Brinker), John Milton, Anne (Mrs. Joseph Hoffman), Emily (Mrs. Lemuel Pullen) and Harriet (Mrs. Albert McNamee).



Mr. Casler remained eight years in Middlesex County and then removed to his present attractive home in Eatontown township, where he has been for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits and devoted much time to dairying and the raising of produce for the New York market. A Republican in politics, his daily employments have not afforded him leisure for participation in affairs of a political nature. His religious preferences are for the Presbyterian Church, at which his family worship.

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**ABRAM T. METZGAR**—Abram and Dorothea Metzgar emigrated from Germany in 1801 and settled in Philadelphia. Their children were: John, Christian, Jacob, Abram, Elizabeth, wife of John Faanch, and Henry. The latter was born in Germany and emigrated when an infant, with his parents, to America, residing, until his twenty-first year in Princeton, N. J., when he removed to Rumsen and made it his residence until 1838, when Princeton again became his home. In 1843 he settled at Poplar Monmouth County, where his death occurred in 1866. He married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Bennett, and had children, John B., Lydia A., Catherine E., Margaret B. and Abram T. The last-named and youngest of this number was born on the 20th of June, 1840, at Princeton, and removed in childhood, with his parents, to Poplar, where he became a pupil of the district school, and afterwards en-

tered the Quaker City College, Philadelphia where he pursued a two years' course. Returning to his home at Poplar and engaged with his father in farming, which was continued until the death of the latter, when he inherited a portion of the farm as his patrimony, and continued to superintend its cultivation. In 1869 he married Susan C., daughter of James Reynolds, of Eastontown, Mr. Metzgar, in 1867, made Branchburg his home, but retained his ownership of the farm until 1871, when, on selling the property, he erected his present attractive residence, and is now engaged in the raising of produce for the New York market. A Republican in politics, Mr. Metzgar has won the suffrages of both parties. He has, since 1877, filled the office of Assessor of Eatontown township, and been for three years its collector. Mr. Metzgar manifested his patriotism during the late war by enlisting in the 14th Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, and participated in the engagements at Manassas Gap, Wapping Heights, Culpepper, Brady Station, Locust Grove, Bristow Station, Kelley's Ford, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Po River, North Anna, Hanover Court-house and Cold Harbor. He was wounded in the latter conflict, June 1st, 1864, and discharged on the 30th of December of the same year. Mr. Metzgar is still engaged in agricultural employments, though much of his time is devoted to affairs connected with the township. Both himself and wife are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Long Branch.

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